8/25/86

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A NEWS SUMMARY
FOR HISPANICS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information,
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

Week of August 25, 1986

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FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Week of August 25, 1986

GOMEZ HONORED BY MEXICAN GOVERNMENT
FOR RESCUE EFFORTS

PHOENIX -- Vernon Gomez, of the Labor Department's Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) here, has been honored by the Government of Mexico for his rescue efforts in Mexico City following the devastating earthquakes that struck that city in September 1985.

Gomez, a mine safety specialist, was presented a commemorative plate by the Mexican Consul General, Jose Luis Enciso, at a ceremony held at the MSHA Pittsburgh office.

Other rescue team members also honored were: Robert G. Peluso and Jeffrey Kravitz, specialists with the Pittsburgh MSHA Office; Jesse Craft and Harry Dobroski, Department of the Interior, and John Hartman, a contractor.

The rescue team was sent to Mexico City in response to the offer of assistance by the United States.

In the several days spent in Mexico City, the rescue team used special electronic listening devices and a miniature television camera to help locate people trapped beneath collapsed buildings. They were successful in finding a number of survivors buried in the rubble.

Gomez heads the MSHA Phoenix office, which covers the states of Arizona, California, Nevada and Hawaii.

A resident of Phoenix since 1956, the Texas native has nearly 30 years' experience in the mining industry, in the public and private sector, including 11 years as a federal mine inspector, supervisor and manager.

# # #

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Week of August 25, 1986

HISPANICS, OTHER DISLOCATED WORKERS
IN 3 STATES TO GET AID UNDER JTPA

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock has announced that about 1,435 dislocated workers, including Hispanics, in Kansas, New York and Texas will get training and other support services to help them reenter the work force through participation in projects funded under the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA).

Brock said that a total of $2.1 million in grants has been authorized under JTPA.

Projects under the dislocated worker program are designed for workers who are displaced due to layoffs, plant closures and adverse economic conditions.

The funds are authorized under Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act, and will provide dislocated workers with retraining and other supportive services to re-enter the workforce.

"Job training is the most important mechanism for re-employment," Secretary Brock stated. "Through JTPA, we can provide workers with the necessary skills to adapt to a changing economy and job market."

The Kansas Department of Human Resources will receive $200,000 to assist up to 150 dislocated oil and gas workers and workers who produce equipment for use in the oil and gas industry. The areas affected are counties with unemployment rates above the national average: Anderson, Allen, Barton, Chautaugua, Cherokee, Coffey, Elk, Ellis, Grahan, Greenwood, Linn, Montgomery, Neosho, Reno, Rice, Rooks and Trego. Workers will work closely with specially assigned Employment and Training Representatives to identify their needs and implement services. Services include classroom and on-the-job training, and job search and relocation assistance.

The Rochester/Monroe Private Industry Council in New York will receive $800,000 to assist up to 615 workers laid off from Eastman Kodak, Rochester Products, Black & Decker, Foster Wheeler, Westinghouse, Sybron, Computer Consoles and Mallory Timers Companies. The areas affected are Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming and Yates counties. A career assistance center in Rochester will provide on-the-job and classroom training, counseling, job clubs, job search and relocation assistance, job skills workshops, customized training, career development and placement and follow-up services.

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New York's Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben Private Industry Council will receive $300,000 to assist up to 100 workers laid off due to a number of small plant closings. The counties of Chemung, Schuyler and Steuben are affected. The Toshiba Westinghouse Electronics Corporation, an American-Japanese joint venture, will provide training and employment to a large number of the participants. Services will include: assessment, outreach, counseling, on-the-job and classroom training, remedial education and supportive services.

The Houston-Galveston Area Council in Texas will receive $800,000 to assist up to 570 workers dislocated from the oil and gas exploration and extraction, manufacturing and non-electrical machinery and construction industries. The areas affected are Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Walker, Waller and Wharton counties. Participants will receive skills training from community colleges and on-the-job training from local employers.

The dislocated worker program aids workers who have been, or are about to be, laid off due to technological change, foreign competition or permanent closing of a plant or facility. Training is also provided for workers who are unlikely to return to their previous industry or occupation, with little prospect for local employment or reemployment.

# # #

Week of August 25, 1986

AUTO WORKERS IN WISCONSIN QUALIFY
FOR TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock has announced that up to 2,000 automible workers, including Hispanics, of the American Motors Corporation (AMC) in Kenosha, Wis., have been certified as eligible to apply for aid under the Trade Adjustment Assistance program.

Workers will receive cash benefits, training, job search assistance, relocation allowances and other employment-related services under provisions of the Trade Act of 1974.

Workers at AMC's Main and Lakefront plants were engaged in the production of subcompact automobiles. Anyone totally or partially separated from a job because of increased imports at either of these facilities on or before Jan. 17, 1985, is eligible for Trade Adjustment Assistance benefits.

The Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance, of the department's Employment and Training Administration, conducted a fact-finding investigation which provided the basis for the certifications.

The program provides cash compensation for a total of 52 weeks at the same rate paid weekly for regular unemployment insurance (UI) in Wisconsin. Eligible workers receive 52 weeks of payments minus the number of weeks for which they may have already collected UI benefits. When enrolled in an approved training program, some workers may receive up to 26 additional weeks of benefits.

The Wisconsin employment security agency will administer the program through local offices.

# # #

Week of August 25, 1986

NEW RULES PROPOSED FOR INDUSTRIAL HOMEWORKERS

WASHINGTON -- Employment restrictions for homeworkers in six industries would be modified by regulations proposed by the U.S. Department of Labor under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Under the proposed rule, employers who obtain certificates from the department would be permitted to employ homeworkers, while employers without such certificates would continue to be subject to the existing ban on employment of homeworkers in certain industries.

The six industries affected by this proposal are: women's apparel; jewelry manufacturing; gloves and mittens; button and buckle manufacturing; handkerchief manufacturing and embroideries.

The proposal follows an 18-month review of a certification system in the knitted outerwear industry which was adopted in late 1984 by the Labor Department.

The certification system would allow employers in these industries who obtain certificates and pay their homeworkers proper minimum wage and overtime pay the opportunity to legally employ workers at home.

However, employers in the six industries who do not identify themselves as homeworker employers by obtaining certificates could not legally employ homeworkers.

Secretary of Labor William Brock stated, "Because of the nationwide interest in homeworker employment, the public comment period will be extended for 60 days" beginning with notice of the proposed rulemaking which appeared in the Federal Register of Aug. 21, 1986.

Comments may be submitted to Paula V. Smith, administrator, Wage and Hour Division, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S3502, 200 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20210.

# # #

WEEK OF AUGUST 25, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Sixty-one percent of women maintaining families in 1985 were in the labor force--that is, working or looking for work--compared with 54 percent in 1975, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Four-fifths of the employed women maintaining families in 1985 worked at full-time jobs. Half of the women maintaining families had earnings which comprised three-fourths or more of family income, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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In 1970, there were about 6.7 million children in one-parent families; by 1985 almost 13 million children were in such families. Most of these children are being raised by their mothers, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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noticias de la semana

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OF HISPANIC MOTHERS SINCE 1980, BLS REPORTS

VILLARREAL NAMED MANAGER
FOR ESA'S INTERNAL HISPANIC PROGRAM

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REAL EARNINGS IN JULY 1986

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Week of September 1, 1986

ORTEGA, U.S. TREASURER, TO KEYNOTE
HISPANIC WEEK CEREMONY AT LABOR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Treasurer, Katherine Davalos Ortega, is scheduled to by the keynote speaker at the opening ceremony for the Labor Department's observance of National Hispanic Heritage Week, which this year has the theme: Hispanics: An Economic and Electoral Influence.

The opening ceremony is scheduled for 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, Sept. 16, in the Great Hall of the department's headquarters, 200 Constitution Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C.

Ortega, a Presidential appointee, has been serving as U.S. Treasurer since October 1983.

Others scheduled to participate in the opening ceremony with the New Mexico native include: Thomas Komarek, assistant secretary for administration and management; Elia Rosario Kerr, departmental Hispanic Program manager; Joe Villarreal, director, Office of Planning and Review, Employment Standards Administration; William J. Harris, director, Office of Civil Rights, and Gloria Socorro-Klein, Office of Labor Management Standards, president of the Hispanic American Cultural Effort (HACE), an employee group.

Other scheduled events for the week include a seminar with emphasis on bilingual and multicultural education; a symposium on "Hispanics--Increasing Employment Opportunities," in cooperation with representatives of the International Association of Personnel in Employment Security (IAPES); a performance and narrative on Latin American influence on American jazz, and exhibits and displays of arts and crafts. The activities will take place at the department's headquarters and at Ballston Towers #3, Arlington, Va., home of the department's Mine Safety and health Administration.

The week's activities also include an "outreach" effort to the Hispanic community--a career development seminar for students of the Multi-Cultural Intern Program (MCIP) at Lincoln Junior High School, 16th and Irving Streets, N.W. Washington, D.C.

MCIP offers an alternative educational program for high school students, most of them recent arrivals Latin American, African and Asian countries.

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The department's employee group, HACE, will continue its tradition of coordinating a luncheon on Wednesday, Sept. 17, and a reception on Friday, Sept. 19.

National Hispanic Heritage Week is observed across the nation in accordance with a public law which provides for a Presidential proclamation designating such a week. This year, the week will be observed from Sept. 14 to 20.

Kerr noted that the week affords an opportunity to reflect on the many contributions Hispanic Americans have made, and continue to make, to the economic, social and cultural enrichment of this nation. It is also time for the nation to rededicate its commitment to equal employment opportunity and to work together for a richer and stronger nation for all people she added.

# # #

Week of September 1, 1986

LITTLE CHANGE IN LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES
OF HISPANIC MOTHERS SINCE 1980, BLS REPORTS

WASHINGTON -- The labor force participation rate of Hispanic mothers with children under 18 years of age was 48.6 percent in March 1986, little changed from the 47.0 percent rate in 1980, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

According to the bureau's analysis of data from the Current Population Survey, a selected national sample of about 59,500 households which provides information on the labor force status of the population 16 years old and over, data for March 1986 show that as might be expected, Hispanic mothers with school-age children had a higher labor force participation rate (55.7 percent) that those with preschoolers (43.0 percent).

The bureau noted that data for the entire nation showed that mothers of infants and toddlers continued to be one of the most rapidly growing segments of the labor force.

Nationwide almost 51 percent of women with children under 3 years of age were in the labor force in March 1986, compared with about 42 percent in 1980.

Over the same period, the labor force participation rate of mothers with school-age children rose from 64 to 70 percent, the bureau said.

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NOTICIAS DE LA SEMANA - 9/1/86
HISPANIC MOTHERS P.2

Labor force participation rates by race, Hispanic origin and presence and age of children, March, selected years, 1975-86

Year, race, and Hispanic origin	Total	No children under 18 years old	With children under 18 years old						
			Total	With children 6 to 17 years old, none younger			With children under 6 years old		
				Total	14 to 17 years old only	6 to 13 years old	Total	3 to 5 years old only	Under 3 years old
White									
1975	45.6	45.3	46.0	53.9	55.9	53.0	37.0	42.7	32.4
1980	50.9	48.3	55.8	64.0	63.5	64.2	45.2	52.5	40.5
1985	54.2	50.3	61.8	69.8	69.8	69.8	52.8	58.4	49.2
1986	54.4	50.5	62.2	69.8	72.1	68.7	53.7	58.7	50.4
Black									
1975	48.4	42.6	56.0	62.0	57.6	63.5	50.2	58.8	44.0
1980	52.1	45.5	62.0	66.4	59.9	69.1	56.9	66.7	50.4
1985	56.1	50.4	64.2	70.9	71.4	70.8	57.6	64.1	52.2
1986	56.6	49.7	66.3	73.0	72.8	73.0	59.6	66.2	54.3
Hispanic origin1/									
1980	48.0	48.8	47.2	55.5	56.7	55.1	40.5	47.1	36.2
1985	50.4	50.2	50.6	58.5	62.7	56.8	44.2	46.6	42.7
1986	48.9	49.2	48.6	55.7	58.4	54.6	43.0	48.5	39.8

1/ Data for 1975 are not available.

# # #

Week of September 1, 1986

VILLARREAL NAMED MANAGER
FOR ESA'S INTERNAL HISPANIC PROGRAM

WASHINGTON -- Joe Villarreal, a career civil servant, has been named Hispanic program manager for the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment Standards Administration (ESA) in Washington, D.C.

The Hispanic program promotes the hiring and promotion of Hispanics in the department's internal work force.

To help carry out the program's objectives, Villarreal said he will serve as liaison between the Labor Department and the area's Hispanic community.

A major emphasis, he said, will be to share and disseminate job information, especially through outreach efforts with community leaders and organizations serving the area's diverse Hispanic population.

Villarreal underscored that the program serves both the areas Hispanic community and the department's work force. Within the department, his efforts will concentrate in assuring that employees have access to employment-related information, including job announcements and training opportunities. Villarreal said he is also available to offer career guidance and job counseling to interested employees as part of the Hispanic mentor program.

He will be working closely with Elia R. Kerr, national manager of the department's Hispanic Employment Program (HEP) and the Hispanic program council, which includes HEP managers from the other departmental agencies.

Villarreal heads the Division of Planning and Review of the Wage and Hour Division. His service with the Wage and Hour Division spans more than 25 years, with assignments in his home state of Texas and the department's Kansas City regional office.

# # #

Week of September 1, 1986

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--JULY 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for July at 328.0 (1967=100) was virtually unchanged from its level of 327.9 in June before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. The CPI-U for July 1986 was 1.6 percent higher than the index in July 1985.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) also was virtually unchanged in July prior to seasonal adjustment. The CPI-W for July 1986 was 322.9 (1967=100) and was 1.2 percent higher than the index in July 1985.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)--Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U was unchanged in July, following increases of 0.2 percent in May and 0.5 percent in June. Energy prices, which had decreased sharply earlier this year before turning upward in May and June, declined 4.1 percent in July. While each of the energy components declined, the index for energy commodities--fuel oil, coal, and bottled gas and motor fuels--dropped 6.3 percent and accounted for over four-fifths of the energy drop. Excluding energy the CPI-U advanced 0.5 percent in July, largely as the result of increases in the indexes for food and shelter. The index for grocery store foods, reflecting advances in prices of meats and poultry, rose 1.3 percent in July after declining 0.2 percent during the first 6 months of 1986. Excluding the food, shelter, and energy components, the CPI rose 0.3 percent in July, the same as in June.

During the first 7 months of 1986, the CPI-U declined at an annual rate of 0.2 percent.

Prices for motor fuels turned down in July and were responsible for the 1.2 percent decline in the transportation index. Gasoline prices--down 6.6 percent in July after advancing 3.1 percent in June--have declined 27.4 percent in the first 7 months of 1986 and were 35.7 percent below their peak level of March 1981. Continued declines in the indexes for used cars and automobile finance charges also contributed to lower transportation costs in July. Used car prices declined 0.5 percent in July and were 4.4 percent lower than a year ago. Automobile finance charges dropped 1.2 percent in July to a point 10.4 percent below their year-earlier levels. The indexes for new cars and automobile insurance--up 0.4 and 0.9 percent, respectively--continued to increase, but by less than in June. The index for public transportation rose 0.6 percent, primarily due to a 1.1 percent rise in fares for intracity mass transit.

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The housing component, which increased 0.5 percent in June, was virtually unchanged in July, largely because of a decline in the index for fuel and other utilities. The indexes for electricity and natural gas, which had surged upward in June after declining in each of the 3 preceding months, dropped in July, down by 0.3 and 3.2 percent, respectively. Fuel oil prices--down 5.8 percent in July--declined for the seventh consecutive month and were 39 percent below their peak level of April 1981. Charges for telephone services, which rose 1.9 percent in June, were unchanged in July as a 1.1 percent increase in charges for local telephone services was offset by a 3.8 percent drop in charges for interstate toll calls. Shelter costs rose 0.4 percent in July, following increases of 0.1 and 0.2 percent in May and June, respectively. Within the shelter component, renters' costs rose 0.7 percent, homeowners' costs, 0.4 percent, and maintenance and repair costs, 0.7 percent. The index for household furnishings and operations rose 0.2 percent in July, the same as in June.

The food and beverage component rose 0.8 percent in July, following a 0.1 percent increase in June. Grocery store food prices advanced 1.3 percent for their largest monthly increase since January 1984 largely on the strength of a 3.2 percent rise in the index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs. All major categories within this group rose substantially. Beef prices--up 1.2 percent in July--increased for the second consecutive month after declining in each of the first 5 months of 1986. Pork prices, which increased 2.0 percent in June, rose 6.8 percent in July. Poultry prices, reflecting in part drought conditions in the southeastern United States, rose 7.4 percent in July, continuing the pattern of large increases for the third consecutive month. Prices for fish and seafood and for eggs increased 2.1 and 1.9 percent, respectively, in July. A turnaround in fruit and vegetable prices--up 0.8 percent in July after declining 2.8 percent in June--also contributed to higher grocery store food prices in July. The other two components of the food and beverage index--restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages--rose 0.2 and 0.3 percent, respectively.

# # #

Week of September 1, 1986

REAL EARNINGS IN JULY 1986

WASHINGTON -- Real average weekly earnings decreased 0.5 percent from June to July after seasonal adjustment, according to preliminary data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. This decrease stemmed from a 0.2 percent decrease in average hourly earnings and a 0.3 percent decrease in average weekly hours. The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was unchanged over the month.

Data on average weekly earnings are collected from the payroll reports of private nonfarm establishments. Earnings of both full-time and part-time workers holding production or nonsupervisory jobs are included. Real average weekly earnings are calculated by adjusting earnings in current dollars for changes in the CPI-W.

Average weekly earnings increased by 1.5 percent between July of 1985 and 1986 as a result of a 2.1 percent increase in average hourly earnings, which was partially offset by a 0.6 percent decrease in average weekly hours. After adjustment for a 1.2 percent increase in the CPI-W over the same period, real average weekly earnings increased 0.3 percent. Before adjustment for seasonal change and deflation by the CPI-W, average weekly earnings were $303.63 in July 1986, compared with $299.05 a year earlier.

THE HOURLY EARNINGS INDEX

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) in dollars of constant purchasing power decreased 0.1 percent between June and July. Compared with a year earlier, the HEI increased by 1.2 percent. (See tables 1 and 2.) The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in overtime in manufacturing and interindustry employment shifts.

# # #

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 1, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

In 1985, about 11.2 million children under the age of 18 were living in a family maintained by a woman. More than two-fifths were living with a divorced mother and more than one-fifth were living with a never-married mother, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The number of families maintained by women grew almost 90 percent between 1970 and 1985, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Mothers raising children by themselves often receive no support from the absent father. In 1983, only about half of women with dependent children were awarded child support or had an agreement to receive it, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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As of 1985, 69.0 percent of women maintaining families were white, 28.8 percent were black, and 8.9 percent were of Hispanic origin, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Labor Department.

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Week of September 8, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

LABOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL WARNS HISPANICS, BLACKS
COULD BE 'PERMANENT' UNDERCLASS IN WORK FORCE BY YEAR 2000

NUMBER OF SELF-EMPLOYED HISPANIC WOMEN
INCREASES DURING DECADE, BLS REPORTS

650 KANSAS SUPPLY WORKERS, INCLUDING HISPANICS,
TO GET TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE

GONZALES OVERSEES TRAINING COURSES
FOR NEW WAGE AND HOUR COMPLIANCE OFFICERS

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Week of September 8, 1986

LABOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL WARNS HISPANICS, BLACKS
COULD BE 'PERMANENT' UNDERCLASS IN WORK FORCE BY YEAR 2000

WASHINGTON -- Roger D. Semerad, assistant secretary of labor for employment and training, has warned that Hispanics and blacks could be a permanent underclass by the year 2000, unless action is taken.

He said that finding qualified workers will be more difficult by the turn of the century because the labor force will grow more slowly over the next 15 years and jobs will require higher skill levels.

Unless the nation addresses a series of alarming problems now, there is danger that the labor pool then "may be composed of an unacceptable number of people who are functionally illiterate, without basic cognitive and reasoning skills, without technical skills, and without the motivation to improve," Semerad said.

Citing what he termed "alarming" statistics, Semerad noted that there are more than 700,000 high school dropouts annually, with a Hispanic dropout rate of 56 percent.

He said that from 1978 to 1983, the Hispanic unemployment rate was 1.6 times that of whites and that Hispanics were overrepresented among occupations likely to suffer high job losses.

Semerad said that among the 17 year olds of today--those who will be in the prime work age in the year 2000--40 percent fail in comprehension skills and 66 percent cannot solve math problems. Unless drastic action is taken, these numbers will increase, he warned.

In projecting labor force needs by the turn of the century, Semerad predicted that the majority of the employed will be managers, technicians and high skilled workers in the service sector, most of whom will require some advance education.

"The unskilled, the marginally literate and those without motivation," are not likely to be part of the future work force, he added.

However, Semerad said he was "optimistic" about the nation's future work force because "We understand that many of the solutions exist in education and training."

The Labor Department official, who heads the nation's federal employment and training program, said the nation should continue to focus on the very young with early intervention programs which can prevent education and social problems.

-more-

He said that nearly 800,000 youths, 14 to 15, benefitted from this year's Summer Youth Employment and Training program under the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA).

He noted that the foundation for future cooperative efforts between the public and private sectors already exists under JTPA and expressed optimism that there would be major initiatives to address problems which are barriers to the economic advancement of the underclass.

Those "disquieting problems," Semerad said, include illiteracy, dropping out of school, teenage pregnancy, alcohol and drug abuse, welfare dependency and crime.

# # #

Week of September 8, 1986

NUMBER OF SELF-EMPLOYED HISPANIC WOMEN
INCREASES DURING DECADE, BLS REPORTS

WASHINGTON -- The number of Hispanic women working for themselves averaged 100,000, or 3.6 percent of all women who were employed in the first nine months of 1985, the U.S. Department of Labor reported. Ten years earlier, the proportion was 2.6 percent.

However, as the quarterly issue of Employment in Perspective: Women in the Labor Force, prepared by the department's Bureau of Labor Statistics, notes, Hispanic women continue to be much less likely than white women to be self-employed.

According to the report, nationwide, the number of women working for themselves averaged 2.8 million, or nearly 6 percent of all employed women, in the first nine months of 1985. This was 1.2 million above the level of a decade ago. Women now constitute 30 percent of all self-employed workers, up from 21.5 percent in 1975.

Most of the decade's growth among self-employed women occurred in ages 25 to 44, the same age group that accounted for the enormous surge of women into wage and salary employment. Even so, women 45 and over remained a substantial proportion of all self-employed women, the report said.

Data are from the Current Population Survey, the government's monthly sample survey of households.

# # #

Week of September 8, 1986

650 KANSAS SUPPLY WORKERS, INCLUDING HISPANICS,
TO GET TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock has announced that up to 650 health supply workers of Travenol Laboratories, Inc., in Hays, Kan. have been certified as eligible to apply for aid under the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program.

Certified workers, including Hispanics, will receive cash benefits, training, job search assistance, relocation allowances and other employment-related assistance under provisions of the Trade Act of 1974.

Workers at Travenol Laboratories, a subsidiary of Baxter Travenol, were employed in the production of cardiopulmonary surgical devices and plastic administration sets. Anyone totally or partially separated from a job at the facility on or after April 23, 1985, and before May 30, 1986, is eligible for benefits.

The Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance of the department's Employment and Training Administration conducted the fact-finding investigation which provided the basis for the certification.

The program provides cash compensation for a total of 52 weeks at the same rate paid weekly for regular unemployment insurance (UI) in Kansas. Eligible workers receive 52 weeks of payments minus the number of weeks for which they may have already collected UI benefits. When enrolled in an approved training program, some workers may receive up to 26 additional weeks of benefits.

The Kansas Division of Employment will administer the program through local offices.

# # #

Week of September 8, 1986

GONZALES OVERSEES TRAINING COURSES
FOR NEW WAGE AND HOUR COMPLIANCE OFFICERS

WASHINGTON -- When a bill providing new protections to migrant and seasonal farmworkers because law in January 1983, the U.S. Labor Department almost immediately put into high gear a training plan for its men and women responsible for enforcing the law.

The training plan was developed by Robert Gonzales, who oversees the overall training program for compliance officers of the department's Wage and Hour Division, a position he's held since 1981.

"First and foremost," says the Monte Vista, Colo., native, "my responsibility is to be responsive to the needs of the agency and our employees so that we can better serve the public."

The Wage and Hour Division is a part of the Labor Department's Employment Standards Administration (ESA) and is responsible for enforcing federal wage laws.

While preparing special courses for laws such as the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act (MSPA) makes his job more stimulating, Gonzales' main responsibility is "to conduct classes which will offer basic training materials and resources" for new compliance officers in the Wage and Hour Division.

One of his challenges is to develop a training package which will meet the needs of all the new employees. Their backgrounds are varied, he adds, ranging from recent college graduates to more mature workers who may be entering a new career.

Gonzales draws on his own six years' experience as a wage and hour compliance officer in Salt Lake City, Utah, and Sioux Falls, S.D., and as a high school teacher for three years in Johnson City, Kan.

"I remember how I felt as the new kid on the block, and the resource materials I felt were so important to help me succeed on the new job," he says.

Classes for new compliance officers run for four weeks of "how to's" including how to deal with employees and employers, how to compute back wages due workers, and working on a hypothetical case from start to finish.

On completing the course, men and women join the ranks of some 950 compliance officers across the country who enforce federal wage and hour laws.

Gonzales says there's a deep sense of satisfaction in knowing that one's job is helping others--the new hires and the country's wage earners.

A recent assignment for Gonzales was the development of new training packets which cover 1985 amendments to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) applying the act to state and local government employees.

More training will be done in the field, replacing the four or more classes previously held in Washington, D.C., but Gonzales expresses confidence that the new approach will meet the agency's training needs.

Gonzales began his federal career in 1973 with the Social Security Administration. He visited the agency seeking information about a grant so that he could continue his education. He received the forms and a job offer "with an attractive pay scale," says the then-high school teacher.

A year later he joined the Labor Department after learning about the Wage and Hour Division through a friend.

A graduate of Adams State College, Alamosa, Colo., with Bachelor of Arts and Masters of Arts degrees in education and Spanish, he did seasonal farm work and worked in a grocery store throughout his high school and college years.

# # #

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 8, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Poverty in families headed by women is a source of increasing public concern. In 1984, the number of these families with incomes below poverty level exceeded the number of married-couple families in poverty, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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From 1980 to 1984, the number of persons in poverty in families maintained by women increased 17 percent, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

###

Characteristics of women who head families include higher unemployment, lower educational attainment, more dependent children and lower earnings when compared with other labor force groups, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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9/15/86

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A NEWS SUMMARY
FOR HISPANICS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information,
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

Week of September 15, 1986

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TO ATTEND GATT MINISTERIAL MEETING

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Alaska
Idaho
Oregon
Washington

Week of September 15, 1986

HISPANIC UNEMPLOYMENT RATE UNCHANGED IN AUGUST, BLS REPORTS

WASHINGTON -- The unemployment rate for Hispanic workers was 11.0 percent in August, about the same as the 10.5 percent rate in July, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The unemployment rate for blacks, which also showed little change, was 14.6 percent in August, compared with 14.0 in July.

The jobless rate for white workers declined from 6.0 in July to 5.8 percent in August.

For the nation, the bureau reported that employment rose and unemployment was little changed in August.

The overall unemployment rate was 6.7 percent and the civilian worker rate was 6.8 percent; each has declined half a percentage point since May.

Civilian employment--as measured by the monthly survey of households--rose by about 275,000 in August, while nonagricultural payroll employment--as measured by the monthly survey of establishments--increased by 200,000. Over the past year, employment growth in both surveys has totaled roughly 2-1/2 million.

Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

The number of unemployed persons was little changed in August at 8.0 million, after seasonal adjustment. The civilian worker jobless rate was 6.8 percent, not materially different from the 6.9 percent of the previous month. Unemployment rates this summer have been lower than they were earlier in the year.

Unemployment rates declined among adult men (to 5.9 percent) and white workers (to 5.8 percent) in August. Jobless rates among adult women (6.1 percent), teenagers (17.7 percent), blacks (14.6 percent), and Hispanics (11.0 percent) were all about the same as in July.

The median duration of unemployment was little changed in August, whereas the mean duration increased from 15.0 to 15.8 weeks. The very long-term unemployed (27 weeks and over) was about unchanged over the month but has risen slightly as a percentage of the total unemployed in recent months.

Civilian Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

Civilian employment increased by 275,000 to 110.2 million. Employment growth was concentrated among white workers, while black workers posted small job losses. The proportion of the civilian population with jobs was 60.9 percent in August, another record high; that figure has increased 0.8 percentage point over the past year, as civilian employment grew by 2.6 million.

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The civilian labor force was about unchanged at 118.2 million in August, after seasonal adjustment. Over the past year, the labor force grew by 2.4 million. (Both the over-the-year employment and labor force changes have been adjusted to account for revisions in the population estimating procedures introduced in January.)

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

The number of employees on nonagricultural payrolls rose by 200 000 to 100.3 million in August, seasonally adjusted. The over-the-month gain would have been even larger except for a net increase of some 40,000 workers who were off payrolls because of labor-management disputes.

In the goods-producing sector, construction employment increased by 55,000, after seasonal adjustment. Total employment in this industry stood at 5.0 million and has increased by a third since early 1983. Mining employment fell by about 10,000, continuing a pattern of decline extending back to mid-1984, all of which has been in the oil and gas extraction component. Manufacturing employment, which had been on a downtrend over the prior 6 months, held about steady in August. The factory job total was lower by some 20,000 workers who were off payrolls in the steel industry due to labor-management disputes. More than half of the manufacturing industries showed small over-the-month increases.

Employment in the service-producing sector continued to expand in August. Services rose by 65,000 over the month, most of it in the health services component. Finance, insurance, and real estate increased by 40,000; job gains in the industry were a vibrant 6.5 percent over the past year. Employment also rose in wholesale trade over the month. After accounting for the effects of a communication workers strike in the Northeast, employment in transportation and public utilities was unchanged.

Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

Average weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls were 34.8 in August, up 0.1 hour after seasonal adjustment. In manufacturing, weekly hours rose 0.2 hour, while overtime hours were unchanged.

The index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls increased by 0.5 percent to 118.6 (1977=100), after seasonal adjustment. The factory index was up by 0.8 percent to 93.0.

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

Average hourly earnings rose by 0.5 percent in August, and weekly earnings were up 0.8 percent, after seasonal adjustment. Prior to seasonal adjustment, average hourly earnings were unchanged at $8.69, and weekly earnings increased by 87 cents to $305.02. Over the past year, average hourly earnings have risen 17 cents, while average weekly earnings were up $5.12.

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The Hourly Earnings Index (Establishment Survey Data)

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) was 169.2 (1977=100) in August, seasonally adjusted, an increase of 0.2 percent from July. For the 12 months ended in August, the increase was 2.2 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in manufacturing overtime and interindustry employment shifts. In dollars of constant purchasing power, the HEI increased 1.1 percent during the 12-month period ended in July.

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HOUSEHOLD DATA

HOUSEHOLD DATA

Employment status of the civilian population by race, sex, age, and Hispanic origin

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, race, sex, age, and Hispanic origin	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted[1]					
	Aug. 1985	July 1986	Aug. 1986	Aug. 1985	Apr. 1986	May 1986	June 1986	July 1986	Aug. 1986
WHITE									
Civilian noninstitutional population	153,819	155,502	155,604	153,819	155,122	155,236	155,376	155,502	155,604
Civilian labor force	100,866	103,790	103,214	99,817	101,249	101,518	101,975	101,922	102,189
Participation rate	65.6	66.7	66.3	64.9	65.3	65.4	65.6	65.5	65.7
Employed	94,864	97,559	97,410	93,684	95,081	95,180	95,731	95,760	96,271
Employment-population ratio[2]	61.7	62.7	62.6	60.9	61.3	61.3	61.6	61.6	61.9
Unemployed	6,002	6,231	5,805	6,133	6,168	6,335	6,244	6,162	5,918
Unemployment rate	6.0	6.0	5.6	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.0	5.8
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	53,308	54,097	53,996	52,877	53,504	53,548	53,674	53,528	53,571
Participation rate	79.0	79.0	78.8	78.4	78.4	78.4	78.5	78.2	78.2
Employed	50,736	51,358	51,531	50,050	50,717	50,588	50,789	50,599	50,870
Employment-population ratio[2]	75.2	75.0	75.2	74.2	74.3	74.1	74.3	73.9	74.3
Unemployed	2,572	2,739	2,466	2,827	2,786	2,960	2,884	2,929	2,701
Unemployment rate	4.8	5.1	4.6	5.3	5.2	5.5	5.4	5.5	5.0
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	39,870	41,237	41,320	40,254	40,888	41,048	41,511	41,646	41,785
Participation rate	53.5	54.9	54.9	54.0	54.4	54.7	55.3	55.4	55.6
Employed	37,498	38,951	38,984	37,964	38,566	38,775	39,249	39,424	39,538
Employment-population ratio[2]	50.2	51.8	51.8	51.0	51.4	51.7	52.3	52.4	52.6
Unemployed	2,469	2,286	2,336	2,295	2,242	2,265	2,262	2,222	2,167
Unemployment rate	6.2	5.5	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.3	5.2
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	7,688	8,456	7,898	6,686	6,957	6,927	6,795	6,748	6,914
Participation rate	64.8	71.2	66.5	56.4	58.6	58.5	57.2	56.8	58.2
Employed	6,718	7,250	6,895	5,878	5,797	5,817	5,695	5,737	5,844
Employment-population ratio[2]	56.6	61.1	58.0	47.8	48.8	49.0	47.9	48.3	49.2
Unemployed	971	1,206	1,003	1,016	1,160	1,110	1,097	1,011	1,070
Unemployment rate	12.6	14.3	12.7	15.2	16.4	16.0	16.2	15.0	15.2
Men	13.6	14.3	13.4	17.2	17.2	17.5	17.8	15.5	16.7
Women	11.6	14.3	13.4	13.0	15.6	14.7	14.4	14.7	13.5
BLACK									
Civilian noninstitutional population	19,799	20,002	20,028	19,799	19,916	19,965	19,976	20,002	20,028
Civilian labor force	12,595	13,061	12,767	12,289	12,769	12,781	12,756	12,691	12,815
Participation rate	63.6	65.2	63.7	62.4	64.0	64.1	63.9	63.4	64.0
Employed	10,788	11,076	10,878	10,560	10,856	10,889	10,825	10,856	10,970
Employment-population ratio[2]	54.8	55.4	54.3	53.3	54.5	54.6	54.2	54.2	54.8
Unemployed	1,805	1,967	1,889	1,729	1,886	1,892	1,929	1,766	1,817
Unemployment rate	14.3	15.1	14.8	14.1	14.8	14.8	15.1	13.9	14.2
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	5,812	6,015	5,923	5,767	5,916	5,956	5,968	5,951	5,855
Participation rate	75.8	76.9	76.7	74.2	75.1	75.5	75.5	75.2	75.9
Employed	5,166	5,236	5,166	5,062	5,179	5,199	5,171	5,196	5,089
Employment-population ratio[2]	66.6	66.1	65.2	65.5	65.7	65.9	65.6	65.6	66.1
Unemployed	668	780	756	685	746	757	796	757	715
Unemployment rate	11.5	13.0	12.8	11.9	12.6	12.7	13.3	12.7	12.2
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	5,727	5,829	5,849	5,696	5,875	5,897	5,834	5,840	5,821
Participation rate	58.5	58.6	58.7	58.1	59.5	59.6	58.7	58.7	58.6
Employed	4,952	5,103	5,067	4,951	5,140	5,161	5,085	5,144	5,092
Employment-population ratio[2]	50.8	51.3	50.8	50.5	51.9	51.9	51.2	51.7	51.1
Unemployed	796	726	782	745	735	736	749	696	728
Unemployment rate	13.9	12.4	13.4	13.1	12.5	12.8	12.8	11.9	12.5
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	1,053	1,197	996	846	949	928	952	810	797
Participation rate	48.9	56.2	46.7	39.3	44.4	43.5	44.6	38.0	37.3
Employed	712	735	645	547	545	549	569	497	482
Employment-population ratio[2]	33.1	34.5	30.2	25.4	25.5	25.7	26.7	23.3	22.6
Unemployed	341	462	351	299	404	379	383	313	315
Unemployment rate	32.4	38.6	35.3	35.3	42.6	40.8	40.2	38.6	39.5
Men	31.4	39.9	32.9	34.9	41.4	40.8	38.5	41.6	37.4
Women	33.6	37.0	37.9	35.9	43.8	40.8	41.9	35.1	41.8
HISPANIC ORIGIN									
Civilian noninstitutional population	11,969	12,362	12,397	11,969	12,255	12,290	12,326	12,362	12,397
Civilian labor force	7,940	8,302	8,270	7,781	7,975	8,002	8,110	8,123	8,102
Participation rate	66.3	67.2	66.7	65.0	65.1	65.1	65.8	65.7	65.4
Employed	7,142	7,405	7,393	6,973	7,144	7,123	7,251	7,274	7,213
Employment-population ratio[2]	59.7	59.9	59.6	58.3	58.3	58.0	58.8	58.8	58.2
Unemployed	797	896	877	808	832	878	858	849	889
Unemployment rate	10.0	10.8	10.6	10.4	10.4	11.0	10.6	10.5	11.0

[1] The population figures are not adjusted for seasonal variation; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.

[2] Civilian employment as a percent of the civilian noninstitutional population.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

# # #

Week of Setember 15, 1986

LABOR DEPARTMENT'S JORGE PEREZ-LOPEZ
TO ATTEND GATT MINISTERIAL MEETING

WASHINGTON -- Under Secretary of Labor Dennis Whitfield has announced that Jorge Perez-Lopez of the Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) will accompany him to the ministerial meeting in Punta del Este, Uruguay, Sept. 15 to 19.

Perez-Lopez, deputy director of ILAB's Office of International Economic Affairs, has been recognized for his work in the field of international trade and related economic developments and their effects on employment of U.S. workers.

In addition to the Labor Department officials, the U.S. delegation, which is headed by the U.S. Trade Representative Clayton K. Yeutter, will also include officials from the other federal agencies.

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) ministerial meeting will lay the groundwork for a new round of multilateral trade talks. Some 2,000 trade experts, official and unofficial observers and members of the press from more than 90 nations are expected to attend the meeting at Punta del Este.

Perez-Lopez, a native of Santa Clara, Cuba, came to the United States in 1962. A graduate from the State University of New York at Buffalo, he recieved his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in economics from the State University of New York at Albany. He joined the Labor Department in 1974.

# # #

Week of September 15, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

During the 1985 fiscal year, the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Labor-Management Standards closed 460 embezzlement cases involving all types and sizes of unions located throughout the country, according to the Labor Department's annual report.

# # #

Provisions of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act intended to ensure that union members have fair and democratic elections for their leadership positions constituted the major civil enforcement activity of the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Labor-Management Standards during the 1985 fiscal year, according to the department's annual report.

# # #

The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor-Management Relations and Cooperative Programs conducted or cosponsored 35 conferences and other meetings to promote better labor-management cooperation during the 1985 fiscal year, according to the department's annual report.

# # #

The Emergency Veterans' Job Training Program provided training leading to permanent employment for more than 40,000 veterans of the Korean conflict and the Vietnam era through training programs offered by employers during the 1985 fiscal year, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's annual report.

# # #

9/22/86

noticiasdelasemana

A NEWS SUMMARY
FOR HISPANICS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information,
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22, 1986

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IN THIS ISSUE:

HISPANICS THE FASTEST GROWING MINORITY BUSINESS SECTOR IN COUNTRY, SAYS SBA OFFICIAL

HISPANIC PROGRAM PRESENTS MANAGER, EMPLOYEE AWARDS

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--AUGUST 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

L 1.20/7:

REGIONAL INFORMATION OFFICES

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Week of September 22, 1986

HISPANICS THE FASTEST GROWING MINORITY
BUSINESS SECTOR IN COUNTRY, SAYS SBA OFFICIAL

WASHINGTON -- A high-ranking Hispanic official of the Small Business Administration told a U.S. Department of Labor audience that Hispanics are "without question the largest and fastest-growing minority business sector in this country."

Grace Flores-Hughes, a special assistant at SBA, addressed a program sponsored by the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics during National Hispanic Heritage week.

She said that today there are more than 360,000 Hispanic-owned firms in the United States with net receipts of more than $18 billion dollars.

On the theme of Hispanic business contributions to the nation's economy, Hughes called Hispanic-owned firms "the largest and fastest growing minority businesses sector in this country.

She noted that total sales of Hispanic-owned firms rose by nearly 360 percent between 1980 and 1984--from about $20 million to $555 million.

Most Hispanic businesses are involved in services, followed by manufacturing, wholesaling, food services, and retailing, according to an article in Hispanic Business Magazine which listed the top 500 Hispanic-owned businesses in the country, Hughes said.

She added that many Hispanic entrepreneurs, given their knowledge of Latin American culture and business practices, are starting to focus their attention in Caribbean and other Latin American countries for business opportunities.

She said many Hispanic-owned companies are small corporations of 500 or less employees and of the 360,000 Hispanic-owned firms, almost 90 percent fall within this category.

While many small business are owned by Hispanics, few participate in the SBA's 8(a) program, perhaps due to the Hispanic cultural heritage of economic independence, Hughes said. This may also be because they are not aware of the program, she added.

She noted, however, that more Hispanic-owned firms are participating in the 8(a) program than in the past. As of September 1985, approximately 694 Hispanic-owned firms were participating in the program and had received 854 contracts worth more than $635 million.

Hughes announced that Wilfredo Gonzalez, associate administrator of the SBA's Office of Minority Small Business and Capital Ownership Development, has directed that an experimental program be developed in the Dallas regional office to increase the number of Hispanic firms in the 8(a) program.

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This experimental program is scheduled to begin in October and is designed to alert Hispanic-owned firms about 8(a) subcontracting opportunities. The program could be implemented nationwide by early next year, she added.

A native of Texas and graduate of Harvard University, Hughes was with the White House Office of Public Liaison before assuming her position as special assistant to Gonzalez.

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Week of September 22, 1986

HISPANIC PROGRAM PRESENTS
MANAGER, EMPLOYEE AWARDS

WASHINGTON -- The Labor Department's Hispanic Employment Program has presented awards to Fred E. Romero, George Gonzalez, Aida Herrera and Dolores Martinez Board "in recognition of their contributions to the program and towards improving employment opportunities for Hispanics."

The awards presentation was made during a National Hispanic Heritage Week program.

Romero, a career civil servant, was praised for his role as a principal interpreter of policy under the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA). He was also cited for a series of briefings conducted under his leadership for communited-based organizations including National IMAGE, Inc., Opportunities Industrialization Centers of America (OIC), SER/Jobs for Progress, Inc., and other minority group organizations to brief them on opportunities under JTPA. The law is administered by the department's Employment and Training Administration.

Gonzalez, of the Office of Veterans' Employment and Training, was praised for his commitment to the Hispanic Mentor Program, for the high quality of his work and for significant contributions in his various capacities with the department since 1970, including heading the Veterans Reemployment Rights Program and networking with the Hispanic communities. Gonzalez is dedicated to improving the status of Hispanics in the department, the audience was told.

Herrera, an equal employment opportunity specialist with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, was praised for her participation in outreach programs, including recruitment efforts in New York and Puerto Rico, which have contributed toward the department's employment of Hispanics.

Board, a writer-editor with the department's Office of Information and Public Affairs, was praised for her "professionalism and diligent efforts" to make "Noticias de la Semana" a strong, viable communication tool between the Labor Department, the Hispanic media and Hispanic groups across the country. She was also praised for her leadership of the department's employee group, the Hispanic American Cultural Effort (HACE), and for promoting and advancing the group's continued effort for more equitable participation and utilization of Hispanics in the job market and within the Labor Department.

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Week of September 22, 1986

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--AUGUST 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Producer Price Index for Finished Goods increased 0.3 percent from July to August after seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

The index had decreased by roughly the same amount in July, after having registered no change in June.

The intermediate goods index inched down 0.1 percent in August, considerably less than July's decline of 0.7 percent. Prices received by domestic producers of crude goods edged down 0.2 percent over the month, in the wake of a substantial rise a month earlier and an almost equally large fall in June.

Among finished goods, consumer food prices advanced considerably for the third time in the last 4 months. Although prices for finished energy goods continued to decline, the drop in August was much smaller than the near-record decrease registered in July. The index for finished goods other than foods and energy again moved up marginally.

Before seasonal adjustment, the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods rose 0.1 percent to 288.3 (1967=100).

During the 12 months ended in August 1986, the Finished Goods Price Index decreased 1.8 percent. During that same period, consumer food prices climbed 5.5 percent, the index for energy goods dropped 36.2 percent, prices for consumer goods other than foods and energy moved up 2.3 percent, and capital equipment prices advanced 1.8 percent. Prices received by producers of intermediate goods fell 4.2 percent from August 1985 to August 1986, and the crude materials index moved down 6.7 percent.

# # #

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Sixty-one percent of women maintaining families in 1985 were in the labor force--that is, working or looking for work--compared with 54 percent in 1975, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Four-fifths of the employed women maintaining families in 1985 worked at full-time jobs. Half of the women maintaining families had earnings which comprised three-fourths or more of family income, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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In March 1985, there were more than 10.5 million families principally supported by women who were divorced, separated, widowed, or never married. These families accounted for almost 17 percent of all families in the United States, compared with 13 percent in 1975, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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9/29/86

noticiasdelasemana

A NEWS SUMMARY
FOR HISPANICS
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Week of September 29, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

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HISPANIC ORGANIZATIONS BRIEFED ON STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

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ANNA VELEZ RECEIVES ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

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REAL EARNINGS IN AUGUST 1986

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Alaska
Idaho
Oregon
Washington

Week of September 29, 1986

INCREASED HISPANIC PARTICIPATION IN NATION'S ECONOMY, POLITICS STRESSED DURING HISPANIC WEEK

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Treasurer Katherine Davalos Ortega said Hispanics are increasing their participation in the nation's economy and political arena and stressed the work ethic and family values of Hispanics.

In her keynote address at the Labor Department's opening ceremony during National Hispanic Heritage Week, Ortega said that "more and more Hispanics are joining the march which leads toward economic prosperity and political power."

She told her audience that "every time you help a colleague or befriend a stranger, you add a stitch to the many-colored coat," referring to what she termed "that great national garment we call a democratic society."

The business of governing, she added, is also "about values--values like faith and family, hard work and high standards. These are values which Hispanics have always cherished."

The New Mexico native, one of the highest-ranking Hispanics serving in the Reagan Administration, added:

"We rejoice in work, not only for the material benefits it brings, but work is significant for the opportunity it provides to grow, to learn, to broaden our horizons and expand our sensitivities.

"If the government means anything, it means a chance for each of us to rise as far and as fast as our God-given talents can take us. And if our own humanity means anything, we will reach out a hand to those who are just setting foot on the first rung of the ladder."

Ortega noted that Hispanics make the United States the fifth largest Spanish-speaking land in the world. Hispanic consumers will spend at least $70 billion this year, and Hispanic-owned business will soon number half a million, she said.

"We belong to an ancient and distinguished culture, one that was many centuries old when the Mayflower set sail for Massachusetts Bay," Ortega said.

She remined her audience that what we do with each new day "will go far toward shaping all of America's tomorrows. Together we can make them great days in the life of a nation and in the lives of her people."

Joe Villarreal, an official of the department's Employment Standards Administration, said the week was an opportunity to bring to the forefront the idea that "equal opportunity, when given a chance, does work." He referred to a Spanish proverb which states, "I do not want you to give me anything, but at the same time, I do not want you to take anything from me."

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In introducing U.S. Treasurer Ortega, Villarreal said she exemplified the Hispanic pride in a strong work ethic and of utilizing one's talents and abilities to the fullest potentials.

Elia R. Kerr, the department's Hispanic program manager, said the political future of the Hispanic community appears to be "bright," noting that the number of Hispanic elected officials in a ten-year period had doubled.

"Hispanic elected officials will be a vital component in articulating Hispanic interests and needs in political and public policy arenas," she said.

About 120 high school students were guests at the opening ceremony. The outreach effort, said Kerr, was to give the youths an opportunity to identify with fellow Hispanics, who, in the eyes of the youths "have made it" and to motivate them to stay in school and to make career plans.

Gloria Socorro-Klein, Office of Labor-Management Standards, president of the Hispanic American Cultural Effort (HACE), noted the group was observing its 10th anniversary. The employee group serves as an internal resource to the department.

# # #

Week of September 29, 1986

LABOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS UNDERSCORE
IMPORTANCE OF EQUAL EMPLOYMENT EFFORTS

WASHINGTON -- Two high-ranking Labor Department officials underscored the importance of outreach and equal employment opportunity in welcoming an audience at a workshop during Hispanic Heritage Week.

In welcoming participants to a workshop "The Hispanic: Legacy, Reality and Myth," Susan R. Meisinger, who heads the department's Employment Standards Administration (ESA) said it was important that "we must continue our outreach efforts and we must continue to recognize people for their ability, not for their race."

Noting ESA's commitment to equal employment opportunities, she observed that Hispanics make up about 7 percent of ESA's workforce nationwide. ESA has the highest Hispanic representation in the Department's workforce, she added.

Paula Smith, administrator, Wage and Hour Division, said, "From one minority to another minority, I can identify with the significance" of observing Hispanic Heritage Week.

"You should not take this effort lightly," she said, noting that the week's activities have grown over the years, and that the momentum has picked up.

Smith, who is black, said she was "encouraged and gratified" to see non-Hispanics participating at the various activities. She added that often when special programs are held to heighten awareness, expand networking or to strategize as to what vehicles further the group's interests, "we are just talking to ourselves--all blacks, all women and perhaps all Hispanics."

She continued, "What we really need is to draw in other people and to the degree we can so that, I think that is going to expedite our efforts to integrate in this American society.

"Intergration is necessary because it takes a lot of us of varying ethnic and racial groups and both sexes to make up the whole. And that's the beauty of the whole," Smith said.

She urged that Hispanics "continue to reach out to non-Hispanics to join you in your efforts, to participate in your programs, and to attempt to understand more fully what it is you're grappling with and how to assist you in that effort."

Ana F. Bauza, who conducted the workshop, spoke of the richness of the confluence of Hispanic groups within the fabric of the country. She addressed the historical and cultural backgrounds of the various Hispanic groups, exposing the myths and sterotypes developed through the years.

-more-

A segment was devoted to the socio-economic and political realities of today's Hispanic.

Noting that this nation is a nation of immigrants who share many similarities and aspirations, she reminded her audience of this year's July 4th celebration and the reopening of Lady Liberity.

"This event," she said," took up the imagination and reality of America.

"If there was a time when America exploded in its pride of being many, of being varied, and of being one, it was at that particular time."

The seminar was coordinated by Joe Villarreal, Hispanic program manager for Employment Standards Administration in Washington, D.C.

# # #

Week of September 29, 1986

HISPANIC ORGANIZATIONS BRIEFED ON STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

WASHINGTON -- Representatives of community organizations serving Hispanics in the Greater Washington, D.C., metropolitan area attended a briefing at the U.S. Labor Department headquarters here to learn about the varied services available through local offices of the state employment service.

Panel members serving on the symposium, "Hispanics--Increasing Employment Opportunities," included members from a local chapter of the International Association of Personnel in Employment Security (IAPES) and others from the private sector.

They gave a detailed description of the kinds of services available so that prospective users "could make the best use of their time" and be better informed about services available under the federal-state network of public employment offices.

Part of the seminar included a section on the Unemployment Insurance Service, a program which provides compensation to workers who lose their jobs through no fault of their own. The program is administered jointly by the Unemployment Insurance Service of the department's Employment and Training Administration and individual states.

The audience was told that four public meetings will be held across the country "to reexamine the purpose and role of the Employment Service."

The meetings are to be held Oct. 15 in San Francisco; Oct. 17, Denver; Oct. 21, Atlanta, and Oct. 23, Washington, D.C.

Participants were invited to take part in these public meetings and were also urged to encourage small employers, individuals and prospective applicants to present written and/or oral views as to the kinds of services needed.

The needs of Hispanic applicants and Hispanic-oriented organizations must be made known so that they can be considered in the Labor department's process of developing changes to be made in the Employment Service, the audience was told.

Panelists reminded participants that "your collective views will affect the kinds of services you and Hispanic groups will get in the future for years to come."

The symposium was coordinated by Anna Velez, Hispanic program manager for the Employment and Training Administration of the Labor Department. The program was part of the department's observance of Hispanic Heritage Week which addressed issues of concern of Hispanics within and outside the Labor Department.

# # #

Week of September 29, 1986

LABOR DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES MEETINGS
TO REEXAMINE ROLE OF U.S. EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

WASHINGTON -- Assistant Secretary of Labor Roger D. Semerad has announced that the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) will hold public meetings in San Francisco, Denver, Atlanta, and Washington, D.C., to provide interested parties with a forum for their views on the U.S. Employment Service's (USES) ability to respond to future labor market needs.

"Our studies at the department indicate we will face major challenges in the employment and training area around the turn of the century," Semerad said. "As with all of our programs, we are taking an open, non-partisan and analytical look at the Employment Service and its ability to meet these challenges."

A Department of Labor study entitled "Workforce 2000" has revealed trends that indicate the labor market and work place of the future will be substantially different from what we have today. Using this study as a basis, ETA will look at the Employment Service's strengths and weaknesses and the critical changes that must occur to match the needs of employers and workers in the Year 2000.

The re-examination will focus on the basic purpose and functions of a public labor exchange's process of matching workers to jobs as mandated by the Wagner-Peyser Act. Functions currently imposed on the Employment Service by other legislation are not at issue. Congressionally mandated responsibilities, including veterans priority, will continue.

The meetings will commence at 9 A. M. and end at 4 P. M. Dates and locations are listed below:

Oct 15, San Francisco -- Ramada Renaissance Hotel, 55 Cyril Magnin Street;
Oct. 17, Denver -- Holiday Inn Denver Downtown, 1450 Glenarm Place;
Oct. 21, Atlanta -- Georgia International Convention and Trade Center, 1902 Sullivan Road, College Park, Ga, and
Oct. 23, Washington, D.C. -- J.W. Marriott Hotel, 1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

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Persons desiring to present oral statements at the meetings must provide a notice of intent to appear, postmarked on or before October 2, 1986, to the addresses listed below. Persons planning to attend a public meeting should call the appropriate ETA regional office at the telephone number listed below.

For the San Francisco meeting:
U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
450 Golden Gate Avenue
Box 36084 (Room 9108)
San Francisco, California 94102
415-556-7414

For the Denver meeting:
U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
1961 Stout Street, Room 1668
Denver, Colorado 80294
303-844-4477

For the Atlanta meeting:
U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
1371 Peachtree Street, N.E., Room 400
Atlanta, Georgia 30367
404-347-4411

For the Washington meeting:
U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
3535 Market Street, Room 13300
P.O. Box 8796
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19101
215-596-6336

Written statements from persons not presenting oral statements must be postmarked no later than October 29, 1986 and should be mailed to: Shirley Peterson, Administrator, Office of Employment Security, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N4470, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20210.

# # #

Week of September 29, 1986

HISPANIC WEEK ACTIVITIES
CARRY UNIFIED THEME

WASHINGTON -- National Hispanic Heritage Week was observed across the country by the U.S. Department of Labor under a unified theme--Hispanics: an Economic and Electoral Influence.

Following are highlights of the programs, which included participation by community, government, business and academic leaders and other guest speakers who addressed issues of concern to the varied Hispanic communities.

The week's activities also included a sharing of Hispanic arts and crafts, music from the Americas and native dishes, all of which have contributed to the flavor and richness of today's America, according to those planning the events.

-- In Philadelphia, City Councilman Angel Ortiz called for greater involvement with the Hispanic community. He especially urged counseling for youths at the junior and high school levels to counter the high dropout rate among Hispanic students.

Panelists including Olga Rubio of the Philadelphia Private Industry Council (PIC) and Robert Maxey and Walter Silberstein of the Employment and Training Administration discussed job training and placement programs under the Job Training Partnership Act.

Juan Gonzalez of the Philadelphia Daily News discussed migration of Puerto Ricans and other Hispanics. He urged that elected officials take action to improve statistical data on Hispanics.

The Hispanic Employment Council of Philadelphia, which includes Hispanic program managers from all area federal agencies, presented Elizabeth Guzman the program's achievement award for her work as HEP manager. Guzman is a management analyst assistant with the Labor Department's Office for Administration and Management in Philadelphia.

-- In Atlanta, the Federal Executive Board organized activities with participation by area federal agencies. Grace Hughes, a high-ranking Hispanic official with the Small Business Administration in Washington, D.C., conducted a session which focused on the impact Hispanics have in community affiars.

Other activities included a job fair, a workshop on federal employment initiatives by the Office of Personnel Management, and the inauguration of Dr. Ofelia Garcia as president of the Atlanta College of Arts.

-- In Kansas City, symposiums focused on education, business, finance, and the status of women. The Women's Bureau held a workshop for job seekers. It provided tips on how to complete a federal application for employment, commonly called the SF-171.

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National Hispanic Heritage Week is observed across the country in accordance with a public law which provides for a presidential proclamation designating such a week.

President Ronald Reagan, in this year's proclamation, said the Week "provides an opportunity for all Americans to recognize and celebrate the great and varied contributions Hispanic American have made and continue to make to this country."

The proclamation reads, in part:

"As a Nation of immigrants founded on universal ideals, America's vision of freedom based on God-given rights embraces all the people of the world. Throughout our history, we have been fortunate in attracting to our shores immigrants from every part of the world. Their values, energies, and spirit have enriched America's culture and added to her dynamism and prosperity.

"No part of our national mosaic better exemplifies this tradition than America's numerous citizes of Hispanic heritage..."

# # #

Week of September 29, 1986

NUNEZ: KEY QUESTION FOR HISPANICS —
HOW TO CONVERT POTENTIAL INTO REAL POWER

DENVER -- The key question for Hispanics today is "how to convert the great potential economic and political power of Hispanics into real, legitimate and lasting influence and power.

"It is already developing and growing, but how fast it will happen and to what extent depends on us," said Jose Nunez, Secretary of Labor William E. Brock's regional representative in Denver.

In remarks at an interagency program for National Hispanic Heritage Week here, Nunez said: "No one is going to do it for us. We have to address and solve our own problems. We have the numbers, the talent and the brain power to do it ourselves."

Nunez said Hispanics need to register, vote and participate in the political process and should not allow themselves to be taken for granted or dominated by either political party.

"Make each party accountable," he added.

Hispanics should not restrict themselves solely to "Hispanic issues," Nunez added. "We should get involved in issues at the national, state and local levels. We have much to offer."

Nunez observed that while a few years ago it was unusual to see or hear adverrtising directed at the Hispanic community, today business and media are learning that "it makes economic sense" to target the Hispanic community because of its growing buying power.

More Hispanics are opening their own businesses and becoming successful, he said.

A highlight of the week's activities was the presentation of achievement awards by the Labor Department's Hispanic Employemt Program to:

-- Robert J. Mansanares, chief of claims for the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, Employment Standards Administration, for his career achievements, his support of the Hispanic program, and his work with high schools, community organizations and others.

-- Bernice M. Roblez, equal opportunity specialist, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Employment Standards Administration, for her career achievement, advancing from a GS-1 to GS-12 during her 12-year tenure with the federal government.

Mario Solano was honored as outstanding Hispanic program manager by the Hispanic program subcommittee of the Denver Federal Executive Board. Solano, a safety and health compliance officer, Occupatinal Safety and Health Administration, was cited for his support of Hispanic program activities among federal agencies in the Denver-Boulder metropolitan

-more-

area, his creativity in getting participation in the Hispanic mentor program, and for his initiative last year in coordinating aid for victims of the earthquake in Mexico.

It was also announced that Solano has been elected chair of the Hispanic Employment Program Subcommittee of the Denver Federal Executive Board. The subcommittee is composed of Hispanic program managers from about 30 federal agencies in the area.

# # #

Week of September 29, 1986

HISPANIC WEEK ACTIVITIES
COVER DIVERSE TOPICS

WASHINGTON -- The diversity of Hispanic culture, issues and concerns were relfected in programs during National Hispanic Heritage at the U.S. Labor Department .

Zita Arocha, a reporter with The Washington Post, told her audience that her early work experience "taught me a great deal about life."

"You can't be afraid to take a chance on something you really want, and once you get that chance, you can't be afraid of working as hard as you can to make it succeed for you," she said.

Arocha began her career as a newroom receptionist when she discovered there were no teaching or writing jobs. But the job did offer a chance to write stories for the religion section of the Tampa Times.

Three months later, she was assigned as higher education reporter and a year later won an education writing award and a statewide award for a series on migrant farm workers in Florida.

She acknowledged that during her nine years as a reporter, she's also learned that "it's not easy to be an Hispanic reporter...you have to work twice as hard as an average reporter with the same level of experience to get the same position; you have to fight against being stereotyped as one who can only cover Hispanic stories."

But she also emphasized that "because of my sensitivity to minority issues, I'm able to find and write stories that might not otherwise be published.

"I have the best of all possible worlds," she said.

Arocha, a native of Cuba, came to the United States when she was five years of age.

For the past year she has been covering education in Montogomery County in Maryland for the Washington Post.

Arocha was keynote speaker at a luncheon coordinated by the Labor Department's Hispanic employee group, the Hispanic American Cultural Effort (HACE).

James Lyons of the National Association for Bilingual Education, in addressing employees of the Labor Department's Mine Safety and Health Administration during Hispanic Heritage Week, decribed bilingual education as a "pragmatic instructional approach which builds on the knowledge and abilities students bring to school, and bridges the language barriers that often separate home and school."

-more-

In his view, improved and expanded bilingual education could help attain universal English literacy in America and preserve and develop America's natural linguistic and cultural resources. These are potentially the richest in the world he said.

A joint program by the Office of Labor-Management Services (OLMS) and the Office of the Solicitor highlighted music from South America. The program featured "El Grupo Alborada" and included explanations of the origin of Andean folkloric music and traditional instruments.

Joseph Fuchs, chief, Division of Technical Assistance and Disclosure, in welcoming the audience said the program would help all Labor Department employees to "better understand the culture of our Hispanic employees and create a more positive attitude in the department."

The second part of the "musical tour" included an American-Brazilian Jazz concert by Tony Gil and Sextet--Bill Harris, Marshall Keyes, Pepe Gonzalez, Paul Wollenbach and Hugh Walker. Gil is the Hispanic program manager for the Office of the Solicitor.

Marisol Aldahondo Benesch is the Hispanic program manager for OLMS.

# # #

Week of September 29, 1986

ANNA VELEZ RECEIVES
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

WASHINGTON -- Anna Velez, an employee of the U.S. Labor Department, has received the Hispanic Employment Program achievement award from the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) for her "outstanding efforts to promote employment opportunities for Hispanics" and for her contributions to the program.

The award was presented by Constance Horner, director of the Office of Personnel Management, at a program to observe National Hispanic Heritage Week.

Velez, a manpower development specialist with the Labor Department's Employmment and Training Administration, became the Hispanic program manager for the agency shortly after joining the department in November 1984.

A native of New York City, she received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus, San Juan.

Before joining the Labor Department, she was with the Council of Hispanic Community & Agencies, a nonprofit organization. Most of the member organizations serve the Adams-Morgan area of Washington, D.C., an area noted for its diverse racial-ethnic population of Hispanics, blacks and other recent immigrants.

# # #

Week of September 29, 1986

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--AUGUST 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rose 0.2 percent before seasonal adjustment in August to a level of 328.6 (1967=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. For the 12-month period ended in August, the CPI-U has increased 1.5 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) also increased 0.2 percent in August, prior to seasonal adjustment. The August 1986 CPI-W level of 323.4 (1967=100) was 1.2 percent higher than the index in August 1985.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)--Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U rose 0.2 percent in August, following no change in July. Price changes in the energy and food components continued to dominate the movement of the CPI. The energy component declined 1.9 percent in August, reflecting a further drop in prices for gasoline and fuel oil. On the other hand, the food index rose 0.9 percent for the second consecutive month, again primarily due to sharp advances in meat, poultry, and egg prices. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U rose 0.3 percent in August, the same as the average monthly increase for the first 7 months of 1986.

During the first 8 months of 1986, the overall CPI-U rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 0.1 percent. Energy prices declined at a 25.8 percent annual rate during this period. Excluding energy, the CPI-U advanced at 3.7 annual rate during the first 8 months of 1986, which compares with a 4.0 percent increase in the 12 months ended in December 1985.

The food and beverage component rose 0.9 percent in August, following a 0.8 percent increase in July. Grocery store food prices advanced 1.2 percent, primarily due to another 3.2 rise in the index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs. During the first 5 months of 1986, prices for beef, pork, poultry, and eggs all declined, but each has turned up sharply in the past 3 months. Beef prices rose 2.1 percent in August, bringing their advance to 3.7 percent since May. Pork prices increased 4.5 percent in August and were 13.9 percent higher than 3 months earlier. Prices for poultry--up 6.1 percent in August--have increased 16.6 percent in the 3-month period ended in August. Egg prices rose 10.9 in August and were up 16.5 percent in the past 3 months. Among other grocery store foods in August, prices for fruits and vegetables increased 0.7 percent, largely due to a 14.3 percent rise in prices for apples. The index for cereal and bakery products increased 0.6 percent, while the indexes for dairy products and other foods at home were unchanged. The other two components of the food and beverage index--restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages--rose 0.4 and declined 0.2 percent, respectively.

-more-

The index for transportation, reflecting another drop in motor fuel prices, declined 0.9 percent in August. Gasoline prices--down 4.7 percent in August--declined 30.8 percent in the first 8 months of 1986 and were 38.7 percent below their peak level of March 1981. Continued declines in the indexes for used cars and automobile finance charges also contributed to lower transportation costs in August. Used car prices--down 0.4 percent in August--declined for the seventh consecutive month and were 4.3 percent below their level a year ago. Automobile finance charges dropped 1.2 percent in August to a point 9.2 percent below their year-earlier levels. The indexes for new cars and automobile insurance--up 0.3 and 0.1 percent, respectively--continued to advance, but by less than in recent months. The increase in the cost of automobile insurance, which has advanced 13.3 percent in the past 12 months, was the smallest rise in 2 years. The index for public transportation was unchanged in August as a decline in airline fares offset moderate increases in fares for most other modes of public transportation.

The housing component, which was unchanged in July, rose 0.2 percent in August, largely due to a turnaround in the index for fuel and other utilities. Charges for natural gas increased 1.6 percent in August, following a decline of 3.2 percent in July, and more than offset further declines in the indexes for electricity and fuel oil, coal, and bottled gas. Despite the August advance, the index for natural gas was 3.9 percent lower than a year ago. Fuel oil prices--down 1.7 percent in August--declined for the eighth consecutive month and were 40 percent below their peak level of April 1981. Charges for electricity, which decreased slightly in both July and August, were up 2.6 percent over the past 12 months. Shelter costs continued to increase moderately, advancing 0.3 percent in August. Within shelter, renters' costs rose 0.2 percent; homeowners' costs, 0.3 percent; and maintenance and repair costs, 2.0 percent. The index for household furnishings and operations increased 0.4 percent in August.

The medical care component increased 0.6 percent in August, about the same as the average monthly rate of increase so far this year. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--rose 0.2 percent. The index for medical care services increased 0.6 percent, with the costs of physicians' services and hospital rooms up 0.6 and 0.4 percent, respectively.

The index for apparel and upkeep registered its second consecutive increase, advancing 0.7 percent in August. The introduction of higher priced fall and winter merchandise, particularly women's and girls' clothing, was largely responsible for the advance.

The entertainment component was virtually unchanged in August. The other goods and services component rose 0.6 percent in August, following a 0.9 percent increase in July.

CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) -- Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers rose 0.2 percent in August.

# # #

Week of September 29, 1986

REAL EARNINGS IN AUGUST 1986

WASHINGTON -- Real average weekly earnings increased 0.5 percent from July to August after seasonal adjustment, according to preliminary data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor.

This increase stemmed from a 0.5 percent increase in average hourly earnings and a 0.3 percent increase in average weekly hours, which was partially offset by a 0.2 percent increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W).

Data on average weekly earnings are collected from the payroll reports of private nonfarm establishments. Earnings of both full-time and part-time workers holding production or nonsupervisory jobs are included. Real average weekly earnings are calculated by adjusting earnings in current dollars for changes in the CPI-W.

Average weekly earnings increased by 1.7 percent between August of 1985 and 1986 as a result of a 2.0 percent increase in average hourly earnings, which was partially offset by a 0.3 percent decrease in average weekly hours. After adjustment for a 1.2 percent increase in the CPI-W over the same period, real average weekly earnings increased 0.5 percent. Before adjustment for seasonal change and deflation by the CPI-W, average weekly earnings were $305.02 in August 1986, compared with $299.90 a year earlier.

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) in dollars of constant purchasing power was unchanged between July and August. Compared with a year earlier, the HEI increased by 1.0 percent. (See tables 1 and 2.) The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in overtime in manufacturing and interindustry employment shifts.

# # #

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Sixty-one percent of women maintaining families in 1985 were in the labor force--that is, working or looking for work--compared with 54 percent in 1975, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Four-fifths of the employed women maintaining families in 1985 worked at full-time jobs. Half of the women maintaining families had earnings which comprised three-fourths or more of family income, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

###

In March 1985, there were more than 10.5 million families principally supported by women who were divorced, separated, widowed, or never married. These families accounted for almost 17 percent of all families in the United States, compared with 13 percent in 1975, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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10/6/86

noticias de la semana

A NEWS SUMMARY
FOR HISPANICS

from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information,
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

Week of October 6, 1986

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REPRESENTATIVE IN DENVER REGION

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OFCCP DIRECTOR CITES DRAMATIC OUTPUT
BY JOB COMPLIANCE AGENCY DURING PAST 5 YEARS

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Week of October 6, 1986

GALLEGOS NAMED ASSISTANT REGIONAL
REPRESENTATIVE IN DENVER REGION

DENVER -- John J. Gallegos, an attorney, has been named assistant regional representative for the U.S. Labor Department in the Denver region.

In his new position, he will work closely with Jose C. Nunez, Secretary of Labor William E. Brock's regional representative for the Denver region, which covers the states of Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming.

They will provide assistance to groups affected by Labor Department activities and will maintain liaison with local, state and other federal agencies in the region.

Gallegos, 30, is a former staff assistant to Sentor William L. Armstrong. He worked in the senator's Denver office from September 1982 until assuming his Labor Department position.

A native of the Durango and Pagosa Springs, Colo., areas, he received a bachelor of arts degree in political science from Fort Lewis College, Durango, and a J.D. degree from the University of Denver's College of Law in 1984. He was admitted to pratice law in Colorado in 1985.

Gallegos is a former secretary for the Denver County Chapter of the Republican National Hispanic Assembly of Colorado.

# # #

Week of October 6, 1986

PUERTO RICAN NATIVE INDUCTED
INTO JOB CORPS HALL OF FAME

WASHINGTON -- Charles R. Serrano, a native of Puerto Rico now with "New York's finest," was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the U.S. Labor Department's Job Corps at a special ceremony held in Washington, D.C.

The award, established in 1975, recognizes former Job Corps enrollees for their outstanding achievements.

Serrano was 17 years of age when he enrolled in the Job Corps program in 1965. He received training in the Mexican Spring, N.M., San Marcos, Tex., and Pleasanton, Calif., Job Corps centers.

After completing his training, he joined the Army, serving in Vietnam as a lieutenant.

In 1973 he joined the New York Police Department. Serrano, now 40, has risen through the ranks and is now a detective-investigator in the Intelligence Department. He has been nominated to be first vice-president of the New York Police Department's Hispanic Society.

Serrano also serves on the executive board of the National Job Corps Alumni Association.

The Job Corps program offers disadvantaged young men and women vocational training and basic education in a residential setting to help them acquire skills needed to become productive citizens in the world of work. It is funded by the Labor Department and administered by the department's Employment and Training Administration.

# # #

Week of October 6, 1986

HISPANIC 'BUDDING ARTISTS' AMONG WINNERS
OF JOB CORPS FINE ARTS AND CRAFTS CONTEST

WASHINGTON -- Young men and women of Hispanic origin were among winners of the Job Corps National Fine Arts and Crafts Contest for 1986, the U.S. Department of Labor announced.

The contests are designed to "provide an outlet for creative ability, encourage talent, and develop additional recreational opportunities" for Job Corps enrollees.

This year's winners included Hispanic enrollees from Job Corps Centers at San Marcos and El Paso, Tex., Phoenix and Tucson, Ariz.; Arecibo and Ramey, P.R., and Albuquerque, N.M.

Winners, listed according to center, prize and entry, included:

Gary Job Corps Center (San Marcos, Tex.)

Jessie Jones, 1st place, drawings
Valentin Guerra, 2nd place, oil painting
Valentin Guerra, 2nd place, pottery
Leonardo de Hoyos, 3rd place, miscellaneous media
Fernando Garcia, 2nd place, drawings

Tucson Job Corps Center

Henry Gonzales, 1st place, miscellaneous media

El Paso Job Corps Center

Elizabeth Martinez, 1st place, textiles
Vicky Mendorza, 1st place, ceramics
Erica Lara, 2nd place, textiles
Cirilo Valenzuela, 2nd place, jewelry
Adolfo Guillen, 3rd, place, macrame

Arecibo, P.R., Job Corps Center

Miguel A. Soto, 1st place, small sculpture

Ramey, P.R., Job Corps Center

Doringe Negron Auilies, 1st place, macrame
Evelyn Soler, 2nd place, macrame

-more-

Phoenix Job Corps Center

Kenneth Joey, 1st place, small crafts
Patricia Soliz, 3rd place, wall hanging

Albuquerque, N.M., Job Corp Center

Peynetra Anderson, 1st place, pottery

The Job Corps program is a program which offers vocational training and basic education in a residential type center. It is administered by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration.

Awardees received first prizes of $300, second prizes of $200 and third prizes of $100.

# # #

Week of October 6, 1986

OFCCP DIRECTOR CITES DRAMATIC OUTPUT
BY JOB COMPLIANCE AGENCY DURING PAST 5 YEARS

WASHINGTON -- The Labor Department's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) completed over 3,300 first-time compliance reviews in the fiscal year just ended, compared to less than 500 such reviews in 1981.

That large increase was noted by OFCCP Director Joseph N. Cooper in remarks prepared for a subcommittee hearing before the House Committee on Government Operations. He said, "The output of the agency has increased dramatically in the last five years."

Cooper said the new statistics should dispel OFCCP's past reputation for reviewing the same contractors over and over again. His agency, which enforces equal employment opportunity and affirmative action for minorities, women, the handicapped and disabled veterans, completed about 5,000 reviews during the past year compared to 2,600 reviews conducted in 1980; and it anticipates 5,345 in fiscal 1987. These reviews cover facilities that employ more than three million people.

"Because we are doing our job better," he said, "we are investigating complaints in a timely manner when the facts are fresh and we can obtain the specific information needed to make a determination regarding any violations of the laws and regulations.

Cooper told the subcommittee, "The affirmative action program seeks to eradicate discrimination through the identification and correction of barriers to the employment of minorities and women in all levels of the workforce."

In evaluating a contractor's performance, he said, "OFCCP assesses the degree to which the contractor fulfilled its commitment to exercise good faith effort. Good faith efforts include outreach, training, and recruitment and are designed to expand the pool of qualified applicants."

Cooper explained, "An affirmative action plan is both an analytical and problem-solving document. It is based on the premise that eradicating discrimination and ensuring equal employment opportunity takes analysis of the current workforce, positive action and good faith effort.

"Once a contractor has developed, through affirmative outreach, an expanded pool of qualified applicants, the contractor has an obligation to make selections from the pool of such applicants without regard to race, color, religion, sex or national origin," Cooper said.

# # #

WEEK OF OCTOBER 6, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

About 28 percent of all women workers in nonagricultural industries held part-time jobs (less than 35 hours a week) in 1985, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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In 1985 more than 66 percent of all part-time workers were women, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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About 51 million women 16 years of age and over were working or looking for work in 1985. Ten years earlier about 37 million women were in the civilian labor force, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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10/13/86

noticiasdelasemana

A NEWS SUMMARY
FOR HISPANICS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
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Washington, D.C.
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Week of October 13, 1986

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IN THIS ISSUE:

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ABOUT UNCHANGED IN SEPTEMBER, BLS REPORTS

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SAFETY AND HEALTH AT THE WORK PLACE

LABOR SECRETARY BROCK HAILS JTPA AMENDMENTS

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Week of October 13, 1986

HISPANIC UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
ABOUT UNCHANGED IN SEPTEMBER, BLS REPORTS

WASHINGTON -- The unemployment rate for workers of Hispanic origin was 11.1 percent in September, reflecting little change over the 11.0 rate in August, the U.S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The September unemployment rate for blacks was 14.8 percent; for whites, 6.0 percent.

For the nation, the BLS reported that both the overall unemployment rate, 6.9 percent, and the civilian worker rate, 7.0 percent, were up two-tenths of a percentage point, offsetting some of the improvements made in recent months.

Nonagricultural payroll employment--as measured by the monthly survey of business establishments--was little changed from August. Total civilian employment--as measured by the monthly survey of households--fell by 265,000.

Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

After 3 consecutive months of decline, the civilian worker unemployment rate rose from 6.8 percent in August to 7.0 percent in September. The number of unemployed persons increased by 300,000 to 8.3 million. So far this year, the civilian jobless rate has ranged between 6.7 and 7.3 percent, with the average about the same as the September rate.

Unemployment rates rose over the month for adult men, to 6.2 percent (concentrated among 20-24 year olds), and whites to 6.0 percent, returning both to July levels following declines in August. The jobless rate for teenagers edged up 1 percentage point to 18.7 percent. There was little movement in the unemployment rates for adult women (6.2 percent), blacks (14.8 percent), and Hispanics (11.1 percent).

The number of unemployed persons who lost their last jobs increased 215,000 to 4.0 million in September, mostly among those who did not expect to be recalled. The mean and median duration of unemployment were essentially unchanged, at 15.6 and 7.2 weeks, respectively.

Civilian Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

Employment normally declines markedly in September with the resumption of school schedules. The decline was slightly more than usual this

September, and, after seasonal adjustment, total civilian employment fell 265,000 to 109.9 million. The employment-population ratio edged down from the record 60.9 percent in August to 60.7 percent in September. (See table A-2.)

Over-the-month seasonally adjusted job losses were concentrated largely among married women, whose employment tends to decline in June and rise in

September and October. Fewer married women than normal left jobs this June, thereby producing a large employment increase, and fewer than normal returned to jobs this September, resulting in the employment decline.

At 118.2 million, the civilian labor force was unchanged in September, after seasonal adjustment. Over the year, the labor force has climbed by 2.0 million (after allowance is made for revisions in the underlying population estimates that were introduced in January).

Discouraged Workers (Household Survey Data)

In the third quarter of 1986, there were 1.2 million discouraged workers--persons who wanted to work but did not look for jobs because they believed that they could not find any. The level has been largely unchanged for more than a year. About 65 percent of the discouraged workers cited job-market factors as their reason for not looking, while 35 percent cited personal reasons.

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

Nonagricultural payroll employment was little changed in September, as declining employment levels in the goods-producing sector were offset by moderate gains in the service-producing sector. The payroll total was 100.4 million, seasonally adjusted.

In the service-producing sector, services employment rose by 55,000 over the month, led by the business services component. Finance, insurance, and real estate jobs increased by 20,000. Employment also rose in retail trade but was unchanged in the wholesale trade industry. After accounting for the return to work of communications workers who had been on strike, employment in transportation and public utilities remained unchanged over the month.

Employment in each of the industries that comprise the goods-producing sector either held steady or declined in September. Construction employment, which had been rising in recent months, was unchanged. Manufacturing employment, after holding steady in August, resumed its downward trend. The bulk of the decline in factory jobs occurred in the nonelectrical machinery industry, part of which was due to a strike. Mining employment fell slightly, mostly a continuation of the slide in the oil and gas extraction industry.

Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

Average weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls were 34.7 in September, down 0.1 hour, after seasonal adjustment. In manufacturing, both weekly hours and overtime hours were unchanged.

The index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls remained at 118.4 (1977 = 100), after seasonal adjustment. The factory index was down 0.3 percent to 92.5.

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

Both average hourly and weekly earnings were about unchanged in September, after seasonal adjustment. Prior to seasonal adjustment, average hourly earnings rose by 12 cents to $8.81, and weekly earnings increased by $2.45 to $307.47. Over the past year, average hourly earnings have risen by 14 cents, while average weekly earnings were up $4.02.

The Hourly Earnings Index (Establishment Survey Data)

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) was 169.7 (1977=100) in September, seasonally adjusted, an increase of 0.3 percent from August. For the 12 months ended in September, the increase was 2.0 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in manufacturing overtime and interindustry employment shifts. In dollars of constant purchasing power, the HEI increased 1.0 percent during the 12-month period ended in August.

# # #

Week of October 13, 1986

EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY ORDERED TO PAY OVER $7.6 MILLION IN BACK WAGES DUE WORKERS, INCLUDING HISPANICS

WASHINGTON -- The El Paso Natural Gas Company has been ordered to pay more than $7.6 million in one of the largest overtime pay decisions obtained by the U.S. Department of Labor, Labor Secretary William E. Brock has announced.

The decision affects 130 former and present employees, including Hispanics, of the El Paso, Texas-based company.

Secretary Brock's announcement followed a judgment by Judge Harry Lee Hudspeth of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas in El Paso.

Judge Hudspeth ruled that the company failed to pay overtime wages to employees at 22 remote satellite pumping stations along the company's natural gas pipeline in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. The employees, all operators or repairmen, were not paid for hours during which they were required to be on call for immediate response to emergencies.

The federal Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) generally requires payment of one-and-one half times an employee's regular rate of pay for overtime after 40 hours in a workweek for all covered work. This is the same law which requires payment of the minimum wage, currently $3.35 per hour.

The case centered on the company's requirement that one employee at each station be on call every night to respond to any emergency occuring after the regular duty hours of 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Company policy was to pay only for the time spent responding to a call. The affected employees lived in housing located at the station sites, which were located at isolated areas along the company's pipeline.

Almost since the inception of the FLSA, the courts have recognized that "waiting time" may also be "working time" for the purpose of the act. Judge Hudspeth found that each on-call employee spent an additional 7-1/2 hours working each night since their hours spent "waiting" were so restricted that they could not effectively use the time for their own purposes.

The judgment in the suit, which was filed by the Labor Department Nov. 18, 1980, also enjoins El Paso Natural Gas Company from further violations of the FLSA.

The back wages due the pumping station employees are for unpaid overtime hours worked between Nov. 19, 1977 and Dec. 15, 1983, when the company instituted a new policy which did not require them to be on call. Individual amounts in the judgment range from $2,476 to $199,846, and include interest.

# # #

Week of October 13, 1986

REINA, EX-MARINE, HELPS IMPROVE
SAFETY AND HEALTH AT THE WORK PLACE

DALLAS -- Joe Reina served his country as a Marine.

Today, the Texas native continues to serve his country, helping to make work places safer and more healthful for the country's workers.

A safety compliance officer with the Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) here, Reina, 34, inspects work sites in the Dallas area to assure employers comply with federal job safety and health rules.

"The inspections cover the whole spectrum--from oil drilling rigs to construction to general industry," says Reina.

"Since Hispanics can account for up to 50 percent of the construction industry work force at any given time, assignments to these work sites take a lot of my time," says the Spanish-speaking Reina.

He views each inspection as "an unusual one" that commands his full attention.

During the inspection, Reina seeks to identify potential work hazards, and offers suggestions on how to overcome unsafe working conditions.

"Sometimes the potential hazards are caused by lack of knowledge; sometimes workers and employers become lax about safety in the work place," he adds.

When he makes return visits to the work sites and notes his suggestions have been put into effect, "there is a real sense of accomplishment," he says.

He continues: "The changes may be of major or minor proportions, but they make you feel you can make a difference and that your efforts are helping employers and employees improve the safety and health at the work place and doing so in a spirit of cooperation."

Reina began his career with OSHA in 1974 as a GS-3 clerk under a program designed to improve job opportunities for Vietnam-era veterans.

He took the job because in his words, "It was a start. I felt that federal employment was a good option, and that once in the system, I could move upward."

Once hired by the Labor Department, he embarked on a course of evening classes. "I knew that education was the ticket to career advancement," he declares.

-more-

The road to earning a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the University of Texas at Arlington included night courses at El Centro Junior College, Dallas, and the University of Texas at Dallas, along with job relocations to Oklahoma City, Fort Worth and back to Dallas.

Undaunted by job changes and interruptions to earning his degree, Reina adds that the birth of his daughter also motivated him.

"I was determined to be a better provider and I knew there would be more opportuntiy for advancement in the professional field," he says, emphasizing the importance of education and skills training.

Now a GS-12, Reina's job also includes training entry-level safety compliance officers.

He takes the role seriously, recalling how he was taken under the wing of a very capable person who helped shape his career growth. His approach, he says, is to be a good instructor/mentor, and to continue helping to carry out OSHA's mission to make work places safer and more healthful for the nation's workers.

# # #

Week of October 13, 1986

LABOR SECRETARY BROCK HAILS JTPA AMENDMENTS

WASHINGTON -- Labor Secretary Brock hailed passage by Congress of literacy requirements proposed by the Labor Department for the federally funded job training systems. The amendments to the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) will become law subject to the President's approval.

Under the new provisions, state and local sponsors of job training programs will be required to provide more emphasis on literacy instruction and remedial education in the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program (SYETP).

There will also be an increased emphasis on literacy and dropout prevention in the year-round education program for disadvantaged individuals.

The requirements are part of the first amendments to the federal Job Training Partnership Act since its enactment nearly four years ago.

"Changes in our labor market make it essential for workers to be able to read and to have basic communications and reasoning skills," Secretary Brock said. "This is especially important for the needy youth and adults that JTPA is designed to help, and who now have the highest functional illiteracy rates.

"By requiring local sponsors of JTPA programs to address the literacy needs of participants in the Summer Youth Program, these amendments constitute a solid first step toward reversing our appalling rate of school dropouts, and of young people who graduate from high school in our country without the ability to read well enough to find and hold a job.

"Taking that step is the key to solving many of the social problems facing this country," Brock declared.

The new literacy provision will apply to local sponsors of the SYETP and to state cooperative programs with educational agencies.

Brock said that "remedial courses offered in the summer youth program can be a critical tool in reinforcing skills learned during the school year."

-more-

JTPA collaborative agreements with education under the "8 percent set aside" will now be providing literacy training for youths and adults, as well as dropout prevention, re-enrollment services and school-to-work assistance.

Other features of the new amendments include:

-- A provision that local Service Delivery Areas (SDA's) will receive at least 90 percent of their share of the previous two years' funding. This would reduce fluctuations in funding under the present formula.

-- Permission for states to use technical assistance funds for post-program data collection and to help local SDA's prevent performance problems.

-- A provision clarifying that dislocated farmers and other self-employed persons can be served by programs for dislocated workers.

-- A requirement that the Secretary of Labor make a special report, using data from the Departments of Labor, Agriculture and Commerce and other federal agencies, on the dislocation of farmers and ranchers because of farm and ranch failures.

-- Increased emphasis on serving veterans, particularly disabled and Vietnam-era veterans.

About 10 other amendments make minor adjustments in the act, including a Labor Department proposal to clarify that Job Corps centers are exempt from state and local taxes.

JTPA, now in its third year of full operation, has helped more than two million youths and adults obtain employment or training. The Administration-backed act, when passed, marked a major shift of authority to the states for job training programs and encouraged more private sector involvement in a training "partnership."

# # #

WEEK OF OCTOBER 13, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

In 1970, there were about 6.7 million children in one-parent families; by 1985 almost 13 million children were in such families. Most of these children are being raised by their mothers, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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In 1985, 44 percent of all black families were headed by women, compared with 23 percent of Hispanic origin families and 13 percent of white families, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Families maintained by women have a poverty rate which is three times that of all families and five times the rate for married-couple families, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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10/20/86

noticiasdelasemana

A NEWS SUMMARY
FOR HISPANICS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information,
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

Week of October 20, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

OVER 8 MILLION HISPANICS WORKED DURING 1985,
480,000 MORE THAN IN PREVIOUS YEAR, BLS REPORT

LATINAS HONORED BY FEDERAL
WOMEN'S PROGRAM COMMITTEE

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--SEPTEMBER 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Week of October 20, 1986

OVER 8 MILLION HISPANICS WORKED DURING 1985,
480,000 MORE THAN IN PREVIOUS YEAR, BLS REPORTS

WASHINGTON -- Slightly more than 8 million Hispanics held jobs all or part of the year during 1985, an increase of 480,000 over the previous year, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The increase included 360,000 more Hispanic men and an additional 120,000 Hispanic women workers, according to data from the annual work experience survey.

Among Hispanic women who worked, the proportion with full-time employment was 74 percent in 1985, up from 71 percent the previous year.

Among Hispanic men, the proportion holding jobs during 1985 and 1984 remained steady at 87 percent.

The proportion of Hispanic workers encountering some unemployment was the same in 1985 as in the previous year--about 23 percent.

For the entire nation, BLS reported that a total of 123.5 million persons held jobs all or part of the year during 1985, 2.3 million more than in 1984.

The increase included more than 1.3 million additional male workers and nearly 1 million additional female workers. Two-thirds of all working men and nearly one-half of all working women reported holding year-round, full-time jobs.

A total of 21.0 million persons were unemployed for one or more periods during 1985, 550,000 fewer than were jobless during 1984. Nine out of 10 of these individuals were employed for at least part of the year.

The work experience survey is conducted each March as a supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS), the household survey which provides the monthly estimates of the labor force status of the population.

# # #

Week of October 20, 1986

LATINAS HONORED BY FEDERAL
WOMEN'S PROGRAM COMMITTEE

SAN FRANCISCO -- Two Hispanic women in the U.S. Department of Labor have received "special recognition awards" from the department's Federal Women's Program Committee in recognition for serving as outstanding role models and mentors to fellow employees.

They are Elizabeth Vargas, investigative assistant, Office of Inspector General (OIG) and Carmen Gerakos, executive secretary, San Francisco Bay Area Federal Executive Board.

-- Vargas, a native of San Francisco, has performed a variety of clerical and secretarial jobs in her nine-year federal career with the department. Recently, she assisted in the development of a computerized management information system used to track all cases and complaints that come into the OIG. The award cited Vargas for her "motivation, dedication and conscientious performance" of her job duties that make her a valuable asset to her agency.

-- Gerakos, a Labor Department employee since 1980, worked with the Office of Civil Rights and the Office of the Secretary's Regional Representative before assuming her new position with the Federal Executive Board.

She also has served four years as regional manager of the department's Hispanic Employment Program. She assists department employees and individuals in the community by offering counseling and helping them to prepare applications for federal employment.

The Federal Women's Program Committee is a part of the department's equal employment opportunity program. The committee sponsors activities aimed at enhancing employment and advancement opportunities for women.

# # #

Week of October 20, 1986

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--SEPTEMBER 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Producer Price Index for Finished Goods moved up 0.4 percent seasonally adjusted from August to September, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

This was about the same as the 0.3 percent rise in August and followed declines in 5 of the first 7 months of the year.

Prices received by producers of intermediate goods increased 0.5 percent in September, after declining in 7 of the first 8 months of the year. Crude material prices were also up 0.5 percent over the month, following a 0.2 percent dip in August and a 1.2 percent advance a month before.

Substantially higher prices for energy were responsible for much of the September increase at all three stages of processing. Energy prices had generally been decreasing rapidly earlier in 1986. Prices for foods and foodstuffs, however, turned down in September, after several months of advances. Price indexes for most goods other than foods and energy continued to rise moderately.

Before seasonal adjustment, the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods fell 0.3 percent to 287.5 (1967=100).

From September 1985 to September 1986, the Finished Goods Price Index moved down 0.9 percent. During the same 12-month period, prices for consumer foods climbed 6.2 percent, but the index for energy goods declined 33.6 percent. Prices for other kinds of commodities were much less volatile over the same span: Consumer goods other than foods and energy rose 2.9 percent, and the capital equipment index advanced 2.7 percent. Prices for intermediate goods decreased 3.7 percent in the 12 months ended in September 1986, while the crude materials index dropped 5.6 percent.

# # #

WEEK OF OCTOBER 20, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The average woman worker 16 years of age in 1979-80 could expect to spend 29.3 years of her life in the labor force, this compared with 39.1 years for a 16-year-old man, according to a fact sheet on women workers published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Women accounted for over 44 percent of all persons in the civilian labor force in 1985. Among these, half of all black workers were women; 44 percent of all white workers were women; and 39 percent of all Hispanic workers were women, according to a fact sheet on women workers published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Women represented 61 percent of all persons 16 years old and over who had incomes below the poverty level in 1984, according to a fact sheet on women workers published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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10/27/86

noticiasdelasemana

A NEWS SUMMARY
FOR HISPANICS

from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information,
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Week of October 27, 1986

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JOB SAFETY OF COAL MINERS

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Week of October 27, 1986

LOPEZ HELPS IMPROVE HEALTH,
JOB SAFETY OF COAL MINERS

WASHINGTON -- Manuel Lopez, an attorney with the U.S. Labor Department, attacks his work with the same spirit he displays on the golf course--determination, strength and vision.

Demonstrating these qualities, he hit the longest drive at the recent Labor Department golf tournament. About 87 employees, including Secretary of Labor William E. Brock, took part in the one-day event.

But this is not the first time Lopez's abilities have been recognized.

The U.S. Navy, recognizing the potential of the then 18 year old high school graduate, nominanted Lopez for a highly prized fleet appointment to the United States Naval Academy, an honor accorded to enlisted men and women who display leadership qualities.

Lopez was graduated from the academy in 1966. His four-year naval service includes three tours in Vietnam, each of about 6 months.

In 1977 he earned a law degree from the College of Law at American University, Washington, D.C., and joined the Labor Department in 1978.

Lopez, an attorney with the Labor Department's Office of the Solicitor, offers advice on safety training for coal miners. He works closely with training staff of the department's Mine Safety and Health Administration training staff and that agency's coal mine safety specialists.

The work, Lopez explains, includes the process of writing standards for improving the job safety and health of workers in the coal mining industry as well as the implementation of training regulations and the development of informational bulletins and directives.

"The training regulations were a positive step in improving the safety and working conditions of miners," Lopez says.

Lopez adds he has always had a deep interest in law, an interest which undoubtedly grew and was nurtured by the fact th[illegible] his father is also an attorney. Lopez describes his father as "an excellent immigration lawyer" in the D.C. area.

# # #

Week of October 27, 1986

HISPANICS SCORE HIGH
IN LABOR DEPARTMENT GOLF TOURNEY

WASHINGTON -- Four Hispanics scored well in the first annual U.S. Department of Labor golf tournament held recently at Lake Arbor Country Club, Mitchellville, Md.

Joe Villarreal fired a 78 and Manny Carrillo shot an 84 to place second and third, respectively, in the low-gross competition won by Wes Lacey's one-over-par 72.

Manny Lopez won the longest-drive competition and finished first in the handicap flight with a net on 73.

Carrillo also shared the top spot in the "blind bogey" contest and won the closest-to-the-pin competition on a par-3 hole.

William Pagan shot a net 74 to win third place in his handicap flight.

# # #

The transportation index rose 0.4 percent in September, following sharp declines in each of the 2 preceding months. Gasoline prices advanced 2.5 percent in September, but they were still at the same level as in mid-1979 and were 37.2 percent below their peak level of March 1981. Used car prices--up 0.2 percent in September-- registered their first increase since January. New car prices also rose 0.2 percent in September, following seasonal adjustment. On the other hand, automobile finance charges, largely reflecting manufacturers' sponsored financing, dropped 6.1 percent in September. These charges have declined 14.5 percent during the first 9 months of 1986. Automobile insurance costs rose 0.6 percent in September and have increased 13.6 percent in the past 12 months. The index for public transportation rose 0.1 percent in September, following no change in August.

The food and beverage index rose 0.4 percent in September. Grocery store food prices also rose 0.4 percent, after registering increases of 1.3 and 1.2 percent in July and August, respectively. A much smaller increase in the index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs was principally responsible for the slowdown. In particular, poultry and egg prices, which had risen sharply in July and August, declined 2.2 and 8.0 percent, respectively, in September. Beef and pork prices rose substantially again in September, but by less than August. In the past 4 months, beef prices have risen 5.2 percent and pork prices 16.6 percent. Partially offseting the slowdown in prices for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs was an acceleration in fruit and vegetable prices--up 1.4 percent in September. Each of the other major grocery store food groups reflected very little price movement in September. The other two components of the food and beverage index--restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages--rose 0.5 and 0.2 percent, respectively.

The housing component rose 0.2 percent in September, the same as in August. A larger advance in shelter costs--up 0.5 percent in September--was offset by a decline in the index for fuel and other utilities and a smaller increase in the index for household furnishings and operations. The index for fuel and other utilities turned down again in September, reflecting a sharp drop in the index for natural gas, which declined 2.8 percent in September and was 6.2 percent lower than a year ago. On the other hand, prices for fuel oil--up 1.1 percent--and charges for electricity--up 0.4 percent--turned upward in September. The increase in fuel oil prices was the first since last December. Despite the September advance, fuel oil prices have declined 32.2 percent in the first 9 months of 1986, and 39.4 percent from their peak level of April 1981. Charges for telephone services decreased 0.4 percent in September.

The index for apparel and upkeep registered its third consecutive increase, advancing 0.8 percent in September. Clothing prices, which declined at a 3.6 percent annual rate in the first half of 1986, have advanced at a 7.8 percent annual rate in the third quarter, reflecting the introduction of higher priced fall and winter merchandise. Charges for apparel services rose 0.6 percent in September, their largest increase since January.

-more-

The medical care component increased 0.6 percent in September, the same as in August. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--rose 0.5 percent. The index for medical care services increased 0.7 percent, with the costs of physicians' services and hospital rooms up 1.0 and 0.4 percent, respectively.

The index for entertainment rose 0.3 percent in September, after registering no change in August. An increase in fees for participant sports more than offset a decline in prices for entertainment commodities.

The other goods and services component decreased 0.1 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis in September, reflecting declines in the indexes for tuition and other school fees, school books and supplies, and personal care. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, the indexes for tuition and school books rose 6.8 and 3.3 percent, respectively.)

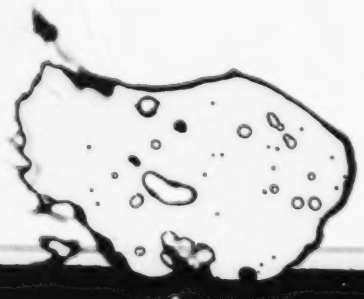
CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)--Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers rose 0.3 percent in September.

Table B. Percent Changes in CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)

Expenditure category	Seasonally adjusted								Unadjusted
	Changes from preceding month 1986							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Sept. '86	12-mos. ended Sept. '86
	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June	July	Aug.	Sept.		
All items	-.6	-.4	.2	.5	0	.2	.3	2.0	1.4
Food and beverages	.2	.2	.4	.2	.9	.9	.3	9.1	4.4
Housing	.2	.3	-.1	.5	0	.3	.2	1.9	2.7
Apparel and upkeep	-.2	.2	-.1	-.3	.2	.9	.7	7.4	1.1
Transportation	-3.0	-2.6	.2	.8	-1.3	-1.0	.4	-7.5	-6.0
Medical care	.8	.7	.6	.7	.5	.5	.6	6.9	7.6
Entertainment	0	.1	.3	.5	.1	.1	.2	1.8	3.2
Other goods and services	.4	.4	.2	.3	1.0	.6	-.1	5.9	5.7

# # #



Week of October 27, 1986

LABOR DEPARTMENT SEEKS TO INCREASE
NUMBER OF HISPANIC, OTHER FEMALE MANAGERS

WASHINGTON -- In a move to increase the representation of Hispanic and other women in grades GS-13 through GS-15, the U.S. Department of Labor is encouraging its employees to apply for participation in the upcoming session of the Women's Executive Leadership Program.

The career development program, sponsored by the Office of Personnel Management, is designed to identify and develop talented women who have potential for managerial and executive level positions.

Elaine B. Murrell, the Labor Department's Federal Women's Program coordinator, called the effort an excellent one because "it gives these exceptional employees the opportunity to further develop and utilize their outstanding skills on the executive level, especially minority women."

In voicing support for the program, Elia R. Kerr, the department's Hispanic program manager, said the effort presented another avenue for Hispanic women to upgrade and further develop their job skills in preparation for future promotional opportunities. She called on Hispanic women to avail themselves of this new career training initiative.

The 12-month program will provide participants with the training and developmental experience needed to prepare for future opportunities as supervisors, managers and executives in the federal government.

The program includes formal classroom training, rotational assignments designed to provide practical management experience and exposure, a one-week workshop designed to clarify the different roles of the three levels of management, and the development of a career action plan outlining future developmental needs.

The program is open to full-time permanent employees, grades GS-9 through GS-12, on a nationwide basis.

# # #

Week of October 27, 1986

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--SEPTEMBER 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rose 0.5 percent before seasonal adjustment in September to a level of 330.2 (1967=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. For the 12-month period ended in September, the CPI-U has increased 1.8 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) also increased 0.5 percent in September, prior to seasonal adjustment. The September 1986 CPI-W level of 324.9 (1967=100) was 1.4 percent higher than the index in September 1985.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)--Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U rose 0.3 percent in September, following a 0.2 percent increase in August. The energy index, reflecting the turnaround in petroleum-based energy prices, rose 0.7 percent in September, following substantial declines in the 2 preceding months. Food prices rose in September, but the increase was smaller than in August because of sharp declines in poultry and egg prices. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U rose 0.3 percent in September, the same as the average monthly increase for the first 8 months of 1986.

During the first 9 months of 1986, the CPI-U advanced at a seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR) of 0.6 percent. This compares with annual increases of about 4 percent in each of the preceding 4 years. The sharp drop in energy prices--down at a 22.6 SAAR during the first 3 quarters of 1986--was almost entirely responsible for the deceleration in the overall index. Excluding energy, the CPI-U has risen at an annual rate of 3.7 percent thus far in 1986, compared with increases between 4 and 4.5 percent in each of the prior 4 years. The annual rates of changes for selected groups during the last several years and the first 9 months of 1986 are shown below.

Annual percent changes

	12 months ended December				SAAR 9-months ended Sept.
	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
All Items	3.9	3.8	4.0	3.8	0.6
Energy	1.3	-.5	.2	1.8	-22.6
Energy Commodities	-5.0	-3.2	-1.9	3.4	-36.6
Energy Services	14.1	4.1	3.4	-0.5	-.4
All Items less energy	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.0	3.7
Food	3.1	2.6	3.8	2.7	3.7
Shelter	2.4	4.7	5.2	6.0	5.1
Used cars	10.9	14.4	7.0	-1.9	-5.7
All other items	5.6	4.1	4.1	4.2	3.9
Other Commodities	4.1	3.3	2.3	3.0	2.5
Other Services	7.3	4.9	6.0	5.4	5.3

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WEEK OF OCTOBER 27, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The number of black female-headed families more than doubled between 1970 and 1985. In 1985, 44 percent of all black families were headed by women, compared with 23 percent of Hispanic origin families and 13 percent of white families, according to a fact sheet on working women issues by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

###

The educational attainment for women maintaining families is below that for all family types. They are less likely to have completed high school or attended or graduated from college than the householder in other family groups, according to a fact sheet on working women issued by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

###

Because average income among families maintained by women is low, proportionately more live below the poverty line than other families. In 1984, more than 1 of 3 families maintained by a woman was poor, compared with 1 of 14 other families, according to a fact sheet on working women issued by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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11/3/86

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A NEWS SUMMARY
FOR HISPANICS

from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information,
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

Week of November 3, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

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ENFORCE VETERANS' REEMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

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$500,000 FOR SIX PROJECTS TO AID
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FOR DISLOCATED WORKER PROJECTS

REAL EARNINGS IN SEPTEMBER 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Week of November 3, 1986

GUARNERO, FORMER ARMY CAPTAIN, HELPS
ENFORCE VETERANS' REEMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

(NOTE TO EDITORS: The nation observs Veterans Day on Nov. 11. The following feature describes one of the programs administered by he U.S. Department which provides a service to recently separated veterans.)

DALLAS -- Milo Guarnero is part investigator, part counselor, part negotiator.

But most of all, the former Army captain who served in Vietnam, is today a dedicated public servant helping recently-separated veterans regain their old civilian jobs under the U.S. Labor Department's veterans'reemployment rights program.

It's a job Guarnero has held since 1984, when he joined the department's Veterans Employment and Training Services (VETS) and was assigned to the unit which enforces that program. VETS oversees program for veterans related to employment, reemployment and training.

Guarnero and a corps of some 30 men and women across the country enforce the reemployment rights program.

"We nelp veterans exercise their reinstatement rights, including wages and benefits added during their absence in military service," says Guarnero.

He adds: "Veterans groups know about us. The Veterans Administration knows about us. But there are many people who are not aware of this program or of the fact that the government has an office to enforce the reemployment statutes."

To help fill that informational gap, the Dallas Veterans' Reemployment Rights office holds briefings, such as a recent series of weekend sessions at the Dallas Air Station which reached some 1,000 reservists.

The program originated some 40 years ago when federal statutes in effect stated that if it is constitutional to require men to serve in the Armed Forces, it is not unreasonable to require their employers to rehire them upon completion of military service. Amendments have extended coverage to include women, reservists and National Guard members.

Since recently separated service men and women must must make application for reinstatement within 90 days after separation from active duty, learning about their rights and responsibilities "is of utmost importance," according to Guarnero.

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A primary goal of the program, he adds, is "to resolve cases on an informal basis through voluntary compliance to the mutual benefit of all parties concerned."

Guarnero says that the Dallas office, which enforces the veterans' reemployment rights program in the states of Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas, recovered $54,000 in back wages for veterans during the 10-month period between Oct. 1, 1985, and July 20, 1986.

Raised in a Hispanic environment, the San Antonio native adds that fluency in Spanish "is a big plus" because many interviews are done in that language.

Guarnero feels that personnel management skills are also important, and being a good listner helps assure claimants that someone cares.

"It's a good feeling," he says, "to listen to people and then be able to resolve cases through voluntary compliance."

"And voluntary compliance does work," he adds, noting that during the past three years, the Dallas office has referred only four cases to the Department of Justice for legal action.

Guarnero has been with the Labor Department since 1977, most of that time with the Employment and Training Administration. He is active in the Mesquite VFW post, works with Vietnam veterans' groups, and is involved in numerous community projects. When he finds the time, Guarnero enjoys a game of tennis.

# # #

Week of November 3, 1986

EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS CHARACTERISTICS
OF HISPANIC FAMILIES: THIRD QUARTER OF 1986

WASHINGTON -- The median weekly earnings of Hispanic families with one wage earner totaled $261 in the third quarter of 1986, compared with $604 for families with two or more earners, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reported.

According to data from a monthly survey conducted for the BLS by the Census Bureau from a selected sample of 59,500 households, other highlights for the third quarter of 1986 show that:

-- Hispanic married couples had earnings of $486 overall. Among Hispanic married-couple families with two or more earners, median weekly earnings were $620.

-- Hispanic families maintained by women reported weekly median earnings of $277, compared with $353 among Hispanic families maintained by men.

BLS reported that for the nation as a whole, fewer families experienced unemployment in the third quarter of 1986 than a year earlier. About 6.1 million families contained at least one jobless member in the third quarter, down from 6.3 million a year earlier.

Over the same period, the number of families with at least one employed member rose by almost 500,000 to 51.1 million. Less than one-quarter of this increase was accounted for by married-couple families, a group that comprises 80 percent of all families.

Median usual weekly earnings of families with one earner totaled $348, compared with $719 for families with two or more earners. White married couples had earnings of $618 overall, 26 percent higher than for black couples. Relative earnings differences betwen white and black families were narrower among two-earner families than among one-earner families. Among families maintained by women, the median for white families ($318) was 19 percent higher than for blacks ($268). Median earnings of Hispanics by family type were about the same as those of blacks.

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Families with wage and salary earners by race, Hispanic origin, type of family, and median usual weekly wage and salary earnings, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Number of families		Percent distribution		Median weekly earnings	
	III 1985	III 1986	III 1985	III 1986	III 1985	III 1986
Hispanic origin						
Families with wage or salary earners[1]	(2)	2,970	(2)	100.0	(2)	$431
One earner	(2)	1,358	(2)	45.7	(2)	261
Two or more earners	(2)	1,612	(2)	54.3	(2)	604
Married-couple families	(2)	2,253	(2)	100.0	(2)	486
One earner	(2)	909	(2)	40.4	(2)	284
Husband	(2)	740	(2)	32.8	(2)	301
Wife	(2)	130	(2)	5.8	(2)	228
Two or more earners	(2)	1,344	(2)	59.6	(2)	620
Husband and wife only	(2)	830	(2)	36.8	(2)	591
Families maintained by women	(2)	532	(2)	100.0	(2)	277
One earner	(2)	363	(2)	68.3	(2)	215
Two or more earners	(2)	169	(2)	31.7	(2)	430
Families maintained by men	(2)	185	(2)	100.0	(2)	353
One earner	(2)	86	(2)	46.2	(2)	(3)
Two or more earners	(2)	100	(2)	53.8	(2)	594

[1] Excludes families where the husband, wife, or householder is self-employed.

[2] Data on Hispanic families for 1985 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1986.

[3] Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

# # #

Week of November 3, 1986

$500,000 FOR SIX PROJECTS TO AID
TEEN PARENTS ANNOUNCED BY LABOR, HHS

WASHINGTON -- A total of $500,000 in grants to six communities to aid teen parents, including Hispanics, has been announced by Assistant Secretary of Labor Roger D. Semerad and HHS Assistant Secretary for Health Robert E. Windom, M.D.

The sites, grants and project organizations are as follows:

Houston, $86,000, Covenant House, Adolescent Family Project;

San Francisco, $86,000, Family Service Agency of San Francisco;

Tucson, $86,000, Tucson Unified School District;

Salem YWCA Teen Mothers Program $69,065;

Savannah, $86,000, Parent and Child Development Services; and

Camden, $86,000, Camden County Division of Health, Personal Health Services.

The grants have been awarded to communities with existing Adolescent Family Life projects and will offer training and support services to help teenage parents become economically self-sufficient.

"Teenage parents have multiple needs--for remedial education, health care, vocational training and emotional support. These demonstration projects show that we can integrate the health, social, training and employment neds of these young people," said Semerad, who heads the Labor Department's Employment and Training Administration.

"The goal is to help adolescent parents--both young women and young men--become responsible, caring and contributing members of their families and communities," said Dr. Windom. "This intensive and comprehensive approach promises long-term gains for both the person assisted and for society in general."

Each of the six sites will examine different ways to increase the employability of teen parents, including services for teen fathers, linkage with vocational schools, and assistance to young mothers from difficult family situations.

Pending availability of funds, these grants will continue for a second year.

# # #

Week of November 3, 1986

BROCK ANNOUNCES $1.4 MILLION
FOR DISLOCATED WORKER PROJECTS

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock has announced a total of $1,366,379 in grants for projects to aid dislocated workers including Hispanics, in California, New York, Tennessee and Virginia. The workers in California, New York and Virginia are displaced due to plant closures and mass layoffs. In Tennessee, farmers face the loss of their land and family farms due to adverse economic conditions.

The funds are authorized under Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA), and will provide dislocated workers with retraining and supportive services to re-enter the workforce. JTPA is administered by the department's Employment and Training Administration.

-- The Peoples' Choice, Inc., in Los Angeles, Calif. will receive $250,000 to assist up to 100 long-term unemployed dislocated workers. The project will serve residents of the city of Compton. Workers will receive classroom and on-the-job training, job counseling, job search assistance and support services.

-- General Electric's Turbine Business Operations project in Schenectady, N.Y., will receive $300,000 to assist up to 300 of its employees permanently laid off from its plant in Schenectady. Workers at the plant were displaced due to declining production and consolidation of its facilities. The areas affected are Schenectady, Rensselaer and Albany counties. An on-site worker assistance center has been established by the union local and the New York Job Service. Workers will receive job search and relocation assistance, assessment and testing, adult basic education, customized retraining, on-the-job training, and job development and placement services. Supportive services will include stress and financial counseling, and referrals to social services.

-- The Tennessee Department of Labor will receive $500,000 to assist up to 385 farmers dislocated as a result of farm foreclosures and economic difficulties. The areas affected include 43 counties in the north central and western part of the state. Workers will receive assessment, counseling, remedial education, job search skills, classroom and on-the-job training, supportive services, and job development and placement. The state of Tennessee will work closely with the Farmers Home Association (FmHA) to provide services to farmers who have defaulted on farm mortgages. Farmers and their families who have not been able to renew their farm leases, or who have lost or will lose their farms, will be eligible for the program.

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Week of November 3, 1986

REAL EARNINGS IN SEPTEMBER 1986

WASHINGTON -- Real average weekly earnings decreased 0.3 percent from August to September after seasonal adjustment, according to preliminary data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor.

This decrease stemmed from a 0.3 percent decrease in average weekly hours and a 0.3 percent increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). This increase was partially offset by a 0.2 percent increase in average hourly earnings.

Data on average weekly earnings are collected from the payroll reports of private nonfarm establishments. Earnings of both full-time and part-time workers holding production or nonsupervisory jobs are included. Real average weekly earnings are calculated by adjusting earnings in current dollars for changes in the CPI-W.

Average weekly earnings increased by 1.3 percent between September of 1985 and 1986 as a result of a 1.6 percent increase in average hourly earnings, which was partially offset by a 0.3 percent decrease in average weekly hours. After adjustment for a 1.4 percent increase in the CPI-W over the same period, real average weekly earnings were unchanged. Before adjustment for seasonal change and deflation by the CPI-W, average weekly earnings were $307.47 in September 1986, compared with $303.45 a year earlier.

THE HOURLY EARNINGS INDEX

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) in dollars of constant purchasing power was unchanged between August and September. Compared with a year earlier, the HEI increased by 0.6 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in overtime in manufacturing and interindustry employment shifts.

# # #

-- Virginia's South Central Private Industry Council will receive $316,379 to assist up to 200 sewing machine operators dislocated as a result of the closure of the Levi Strauss Company plant in Blackstone. The area affected is Nottoway county. Workers will receive assessment, remedial education, testing, skills and on-the-job training, job search, and job development and placement. Supportive services will include child care services, transportation assistance, and health care, since many of the workers are single heads of households.

The dislocated worker program aids workers who have been, or are about to be, laid off due to technological change, foreign competition or the permanent closing of a plant or facility. Training is also provided for workers who are unlikely to return to their previous industry or occupation, with little prospect for local employment or reemployment.

# # #

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 3, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The average female woman worker is as well educated as the average male worker. In March 1985, both had completed a median of 12.8 years of schooling, according to a fact sheet on women workers published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Women represented 61 percent of all persons 16 years old and over who had incomes below the poverty level in 1984, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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A 1985 study by the Small Business Administration reported that more women are choosing to be entrepreneurs. The number of women-owned businesses in the United States rose from 1.9 million in 1977 to 2.6 million by 1982, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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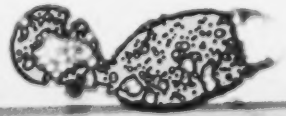

11/10/86

noticias de la semana

A NEWS SUMMARY
FOR HISPANICS

from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information,
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

Week of November 10, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

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IN THIRD QUARTER OF 1986, BLS REPORTS

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NEW IMMIGRANTS TO BE ASSESSED

HISPANICS HONORED FOR BILLINGUAL JOB SAFETY
AND HEALTH TRAINING SEMINAR

HISPANIC WOMAN APPLAUDS VETERANS'
REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS PROGRAM

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Week of November 10, 1986

HISPANICS EARNED 75 PERCENT AS MUCH AS WHITES
IN THIRD QUARTER OF 1986, BLS REPORTS

WASHINGTON -- Usual earnings reported by the nation's 5.8 million full-time wage and salary workers of Hispanic origin were $273 a week in the third quarter of 1986, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The weekly earnings for Hispanics, $273, were 75 percent those of whites, $365. The median for all blacks, $288, was 79 percent that of whites.

According to the survey, Hispanic men working full-time reported median weekly earnings of $296, compared to $236 for Hispanic women.

Among all Hispanic workers, 16 years and over who worked full time at wage and salary jobs, 3.7 million were men and 2.1 million were women.

Data on usual weekly earnings are collected as part of the Current Population Survey, a nationwide sample survey of 59,500 households. The survey, conducted monthly for the BLS by the Census Bureau, covers all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

The wage and salary levels are expressed as medians. Statistics on median earnings are the amounts which divide a given earnings distribution into two equal groups--one having earnings above the median, the other having earnings below the median.

The BLS reported that for the entire nation, the usual earnings reported by the 80.9 million full-time wage and salary workers were $354 a week in the third quarter of 1986. This represents an increase of 4.1 percent from a year earlier. The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers rose 1.6 percent over this period.

Other highlights of the third-quarter data are:

--Median weekly earnings for women who worked full time were $287, or 69 percent of the $414 median for men.

--Full-time earnings were highest for workers 35 to 44 years old ($422) and lowest for teenagers ($173). Men's earnings peaked at $502 in ages 35 to 54. Women's peaked at $321 in ages 35 to 44.

--Among the major occupational groups, workers in executive, administrative, and managerial and professional specialty occupations reported the highest weekly earnings, with medians of about $500. For women, those in the professions and the small number employed as mechanics and repairers had the highest medians. Lowest weekly earnings were reported for workers in farming, forestry, and fishing ($211) and in service jobs ($219).

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Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)		Median weekly earnings			
			In current dollars		In constant (1977) dollars	
	III 1985	III 1986	III 1985	III 1986	III 1985	III 1986
SEX AND AGE						
Total, 16 years and over	79,012	80,928	$340	$354	$190	$195
Men, 16 years and over	46,956	47,454	401	414	225	229
16 to 24 years	7,931	7,791	231	237	130	131
25 years and over	39,025	39,664	440	461	247	254
Women, 16 years and over	32,056	33,473	275	287	154	158
16 to 24 years	6,177	6,149	206	212	115	117
25 years and over	25,880	27,325	296	309	166	170
FAMILY RELATIONSHIP						
Husbands	30,406	30,607	454	473	254	261
Wives	16,206	16,888	286	300	160	166
Women who maintain families	4,446	4,508	272	280	153	154
Men who maintain families	1,262	1,473	389	440	218	243
Other persons in families:						
Men	7,044	7,297	228	241	128	133
Women	4,713	4,946	207	216	116	119
All other men 1/	8,240	8,076	377	395	212	218
All other women 1/	6,694	7,133	306	317	172	175
RACE, HISPANIC ORIGIN, AND SEX						
White	68,280	69,633	352	365	197	202
Men	41,258	41,481	412	425	231	235
Women	27,022	28,153	280	292	157	161
Black	8,577	8,857	270	288	151	159
Men	4,481	4,608	301	320	169	176
Women	4,095	4,250	242	259	136	143
Hispanic origin	(2)	5,837	(2)	273	(2)	151
Men	(2)	3,718	(2)	296	(2)	163
Women	(2)	2,119	(2)	236	(2)	130

1/ The majority of these persons are living alone or with nonrelatives. Also included are persons in married-couple families where the husband or wife is in the Armed Forces and persons in unrelated subfamilies.

2/ Data on Hispanic wage and salary earners for 1985 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1986.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

# # #

Week of November 10, 1986

TRAINING FOR DISADVANTAGED,
NEW IMMIGRANTS TO BE ASSESSED

WASHINGTON -- A new study of innovative ways to make learning on the job more effective will also assess training for disadvantaged persons and new immigrants, Assistant Secretary of Labor Roger D. Semerad announced.

The study will examine basic skills training now offered both the disadvantaged and new immigrants, including on-the-job training in reading, math and adaptation to the workplace, Semerad said.

A two-year, $750,000 grant has been awarded to the American Society for Training and Development an Alexandria, Va.,-training and development firm, to conduct the study.

In addition to assessing training for the disadvantaged and new immigrants, the study will evaluate entry and mid-level workplace training methods used by employers in the private sector. The study will examine ways to enhance basic skills and remedial education training in selected service and manufacturing industries.

A major part of the study will be a compilation of the best practices for providing workplace learning, which will be developed through surveys and consultation with leading practitioners in the field, and observation and analysis of actual practices.

Key aspects of the study will include an examination of programs to retrain employees dislocated by economic change or displaced by new technology.

"We want to look at techniques used in the private sector that can be adapted to public sector job training programs under the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA)," said Semerad, who heads the department's Employment and Training Administration. "This study will enable us to keep pace with changing technologies in the work place as we move toward the year 2000.

"What we will learn will help us develop training programs to improve the quality of productivity in the American workforce," Semerad continued. "This is essential if we are to compete in international markets."

# # #

Week of November 10, 1986

HISPANICS HONORED FOR BILINGUAL JOB SAFETY
AND HEALTH TRAINING SEMINAR

LUBBOCK, Tex.-- Seven Hispanic employees with the Lubbock area office of the U.S. Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) have been honored for their "initiation, preparation and presentation" of a two-day OSHA Bilingual Construction Training Seminar held in El Paso.

They are: David Garcia, Raymond Johnson, Carlos Ocnoa, Hilario Palacios, Steve Pedroza, G.A. Rodriguez and Placido Vigil.

Other OSHA employees, from the Lubbock office, who also were are honored for their participation in the seminar include: Jerry Bailey, area director; Bruce Lilly, Bonita Horton, David Elskamp and Jerry Kearns.

All have received the Labor Department's Distinguished Performance Award in recognition of their role in the training seminar. It is believed to have been the first of its kind in this area for employers and workers in the construction industry.

According to Garcia, a supervisory safety compliance officer, the seminar was presented in Spanish and English because of the great increase of Spanish-speaking persons in the area's construction industry. It is estimated that about half of the employers and about 80 percent of the workers in the area's construction industry are Spanish-speaking. Ochoa and Johnson served as Spanish-language translators.

The seminar included various topics designed to help improve job safety and health in the construction industry.

Garcia said the response was "very positive" and that future seminars will be designed to improve on this experience.

The OSHA Lubbock area office is responsible for 79 counties in west Texas and includes the cities of EL Paso, Amarillo, and Midland-Odessa.

# # #

Week of November 10, 1986

HISPANIC WOMAN APPLAUDS VETERANS'
REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS PROGRAM

TRENTON, N.J. -- For nearly three years to the day, Azalia Rivera helped enforce U.S. Labor Department-administered laws which protect job reemployment rights, including seniority, pay rate, vacation and pension credits of veterans, reservists and members of the National Guard.

As a veterans' reemployment rights program agent, Rivera helped enforce these laws under the department's Office of Veterans' Employment and Training Service. Nationwide, a corps of some 30 men and women enforce the veterans' reemployment rights program.

She recalls one of her first major assignments was to tackle a backlog of cases from the Puerto Rico office, a task she worked on for about 18 months while at the same time serving her disignated area--the State of New Jersey.

"Being fluent in Spanish helped a lot" says the native of Rio Piedras, P.R.. It's a skill I used frequently in meeting with clients, employers and others."

According to Rivera, most job reemployment cases are resolved through voluntary compliance on the part of employers or pension plan administrators.

One of Rivera's "landmark" cases resulted in a class action suit filed in October 1985 by the U.S. Attorney after earlier settlement attempts by the Labor and Justice Departments had failed.

According to the ruling, state and local government employees in New Jersey who are veterans, reservists or National Guard members must receive credit toward their pensions while they were on active duty or training with the Armed Forces or Reserves.

The ruling affects present and former employees of the State of New Jersey and its political subdivisions who had periods of qualifying service in the Armed Forces from Dec. 3, 1974, on.

"We don't have all the data, but we believe the consent decree will affect hundreds of present and former employees," Rivera says. The class action stemmed from her alert observance of similarities on several cases she was investigating.

And in yet another case, Rivera recalls that when an ex-Marine was reinstated to his old job and awarded $3,000 in lost wages and benefits, he literally tracked her to her home to say, "Thank you. I couldn't have done it without you."

-more-

"Not all cases ended with such a dramatic note, but a simple 'tnank you' always added immeasurably to feeling good about helping people and the job," says Rivera.

Rivera is also a founder and secretary-recorder to the Hispanic Vietnam Veterans Committee, a group dedicated "to address the problems encountered by Hispanic veterans and their dependents and to assist them in resolving those problems."

The group has a wide cross-representation of Hispanics from the public and private sectors. 'We are terribly excited about this effort and we're still busy developing strategies," she adds.

Enthusiastic about the group's commitment to the community, she adds that "often Hispanics don't know where to get information and assistance. We hope to fill that gap, and more importantly, we can identify with their bilingual and bicultural needs.

"Helping people is important to me. I'm proud to have been part of the veterans reemployment rights program," says Rivera as she sets foot on a new rung of her career ladder.

She is now a GS-11 investigator with the Labor Department's Office of Labor-Management Services (OLMS) in Philadelphia. OLMS administers the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act, commonly called the Landrum-Griffin Act.

A resident of Trenton, N.J., Rivera attends evening courses at Mercer County College, working towards a degree in business administration with a major in personnel. She has been a federal employee 10 years, eight of them at the Labor Department. She began her federal career as a secretary.

# # #

Week of November 10, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) is operated on the basis of a program year, beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30 of the following year, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's annual report for fiscal year 1985.

# # #

The Job Training Partnership Act was enacted into law in October 1982 and became fully operational in October 1983, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's annual report for fiscal year 1985. The law is administered by the Labor Department's Employment and Training Administration.

# # #

The Job Training Partnership Act is sharply focused on training with a legislatively mandated requirement that at least 70 percent of all funds be used for this purpose, according to the U.S.Labor Department's annual report for fiscal year 1985.

# # #

Data for the period July 1, 1984 to June 30, 1985, indicate that of new participants entering Job Training Partnership Act programs, 94 percent were economically disadvantaged, according to the Labor Department's annual report for fiscal year 1985.

# # #

11/17/86

noticiasdelasemana

A NEWS SUMMARY
FOR HISPANICS

from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information,
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

Week of November 17, 1986

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Week of November 17, 1986

HISPANIC UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ABOUT UNCHANGED IN OCTOBER, BLS REPORTS

WASHINGTON -- The unemployment rate for Hispanic workers was 10.5 percent in October, reflecting little change from the 11.1 percent rate in September, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reported.

The jobless rate for whites was 6.0 percent; for blacks only, 14.4 percent.

BLS reported that for the entire nation, employment rose and unemployment was unchanged in October.

The overall unemployment rate was 6.9 percent, and the civilian worker rate was 7.0 percent.

Civilian employment--as measured by the monthly survey of households--increased by 350,000 in October to 110.2 million. Nonagricultural payroll employment--as measured by the monthly survey of establishments--rose by 300,000 to 100.7 million. Virtually all of the payroll job increase occurred in the service-producing sector.

Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

The number of unemployed persons was little changed in October at 8.2 million, after seasonal adjustment. The civilian worker unemployment rate held steady over the month at 7.0 percent, about the same as a year earlier. Unemployment rates among the major labor force groups--including adult men (6.2 percent), adult women (6.1 percent), teenagers (17.6 percent), whites (6.0 percent), blacks (14.4 percent), and Hispanics (10.5 percent)--showed little or no change from September.

The mean and median duration of unemployment were also little changed, at 15.2 and 7.0 weeks, respectively. There was, however, a decline of 235,000 in the number of individuals who were unemployed for 15 weeks or more.

Civilian Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

Civilian employment grew by 350,000 over the month to 110.2 million, seasonally adjusted. Increases occurred among persons on part-time schedules, both among those working part time voluntarily and for economic reasons. Overall employment gains were concentrated among adult women and teenagers. The proportion of the civilian population that is employed edged up to 60.8 percent in October.

-more-

The civilian labor force increased to 118.5\million in October, after seasonal adjustment. Over the past year, the labor force has grown by 2.0 million (after adjustment is made for revisions in the underlying population estimates that were introduced in January).

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

Total nonagricultural payroll employment rose by 300,000 in October, seasonally adjusted, to a level of 100.7 million. Over-the-month increases occurred in slightly more than half of the 185 industries in the BLS index of diffusion.

Almost all of the October job growth was in the service-producing sector, with particularly strong advances in services (95,000) and retail trade (80,000). Although these two industry divisions comprise only about 40 percent of payroll jobs, they have accounted for 70 percent of the 2.3 million over-the-year job expansion. Elsewhere in the sector, modest employment gains were registered in local government; wholesale trade; and finance, insurance, and real estate. The job total in transportation and public utilities was essentially unchanged even after accounting for an increase in strike activity.

Little or no job growth occurred in each of the industries in the goods-producing sector. Employment in manufacturing was little changed, after decreasing by 190,000 in the first 9 months of this year. Mining and its oil and gas extraction component, which had both declined for 17 consecutive months, held steady in October. After adjustment for seasonality, the job total in construction was unchanged for the second straight month.

Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

Average weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls were 34.6 in October, down 0.1 hour after seasonal adjustment. In manufacturing, the average workweek declined 0.2 hour, and overtime hours were down 0.1 hour.

The index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls was unchanged at 118.3 (1977=100), after seasonal adjustment. The factory index edged down 0.1 percent to 92.6.

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

Average hourly earnings increased 0.6 percent in October, and average weekly earnings increased 0.3 percent, seasonally adjusted. Prior to seasonal adjustment, average hourly earnings rose 2 cents to $8.83, while average weekly earnings were down by $1.07 to $306.40. Compared to a year earlier, average hourly earnings rose by 19 cents, while average weekly earnings were up $4.86.

The Hourly Earnings Index (Establishment Survey Data)

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) was 170.3 (1977=100) in October, seasonally adjusted, an increase of 0.4 percent from September. For the 12 months ended in October, the increase was 2.5 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in manufacturing overtime and interindustry employment shifts. In dollars of constant purchasing power, the HEI increased 0.6 percent during the 12-month period ended in September.

-more-

NOTICIAS DE LA SEMANA - 11/17/86
EMPLOYMENT P.4

HOUSEHOLD DATA

HOUSEHOLD DATA

Employment status of the civilian population by race, sex, age, and Hispanic origin

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, race, sex, age, and Hispanic origin	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted[1]					
	Oct. 1985	Sept. 1986	Oct. 1986	Oct. 1985	June 1986	July 1986	Aug. 1986	Sept. 1986	Oct. 1986
WHITE									
Civilian noninstitutional population	154,082	155,723	155,856	154,082	155,376	155,502	155,604	155,723	155,856
Civilian labor force	100,715	102,138	102,504	100,533	101,975	101,922	102,189	102,127	102,326
Participation rate	65.4	65.6	65.8	65.2	65.6	65.5	65.7	65.6	65.7
Employed	94,885	96,262	96,702	94,369	95,731	95,760	96,271	95,953	96,158
Employment-population ratio[2]	61.6	61.8	62.0	61.2	61.6	61.6	61.9	61.6	61.7
Unemployed	5,830	5,876	5,802	6,164	6,244	6,162	5,918	6,174	6,169
Unemployment rate	5.8	5.8	5.7	6.1	6.1	6.0	5.8	6.0	6.0
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	53,177	53,757	53,741	53,105	53,674	53,628	53,571	53,669	53,724
Participation rate	78.7	78.4	78.3	78.6	78.5	78.2	78.2	78.3	78.3
Employed	50,721	51,204	51,157	50,339	50,789	50,599	50,870	50,798	50,801
Employment-population ratio[2]	75.0	74.7	74.6	74.5	74.3	73.9	74.3	74.1	74.0
Unemployed	2,456	2,553	2,584	2,766	2,884	2,929	2,701	2,872	2,923
Unemployment rate	4.6	4.7	4.8	5.2	5.4	5.5	5.0	5.4	5.4
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	41,024	41,804	42,157	40,549	41,511	41,446	41,705	41,555	41,616
Participation rate	55.0	55.5	56.0	54.3	55.3	55.4	55.4	55.2	55.2
Employed	38,760	39,523	39,958	38,317	39,249	39,424	39,538	39,366	39,445
Employment-population ratio[2]	51.9	52.5	53.0	51.3	52.3	52.4	52.6	52.3	52.4
Unemployed	2,264	2,281	2,199	2,232	2,262	2,222	2,167	2,189	2,171
Unemployment rate	5.5	5.5	5.2	5.5	5.4	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.2
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	6,513	6,577	6,607	6,879	6,790	6,748	6,914	6,903	6,986
Participation rate	54.9	55.3	55.5	58.0	57.2	56.8	58.2	58.1	58.7
Employed	5,404	5,535	5,588	5,713	5,693	5,737	5,864	5,790	5,911
Employment-population ratio[2]	45.5	46.6	47.0	48.2	47.9	48.3	49.3	48.7	49.7
Unemployed	1,109	1,042	1,019	1,166	1,097	1,011	1,050	1,113	1,075
Unemployment rate	17.0	15.8	15.4	17.0	16.2	15.0	15.2	16.1	15.4
Men	18.8	16.0	15.5	18.5	17.8	15.3	16.7	17.0	15.4
Women	15.2	15.7	15.3	15.3	14.4	14.7	13.5	15.2	15.4
BLACK									
Civilian noninstitutional population	19,761	20,076	20,089	19,761	19,974	20,002	20,028	20,056	20,089
Civilian labor force	12,402	12,657	12,720	12,412	12,754	12,601	12,473	12,630	12,732
Participation rate	62.8	63.1	63.3	62.8	63.9	63.0	62.3	63.0	63.4
Employed	10,576	10,785	10,902	10,566	10,825	10,836	10,654	10,757	10,893
Employment-population ratio[2]	53.5	53.8	54.3	53.5	54.2	54.2	53.2	53.6	54.2
Unemployed	1,826	1,872	1,819	1,846	1,929	1,766	1,819	1,873	1,838
Unemployment rate	14.7	14.8	14.3	14.9	15.1	14.0	14.6	14.8	14.4
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	5,791	5,915	5,940	5,778	5,968	5,951	5,855	5,895	5,931
Participation rate	74.5	74.5	74.7	74.3	75.5	75.2	73.9	74.3	74.6
Employed	5,038	5,160	5,177	4,987	5,171	5,194	5,080	5,089	5,131
Employment-population ratio[2]	64.8	65.0	65.1	64.1	65.4	65.6	64.1	64.1	64.5
Unemployed	754	755	763	791	796	757	775	806	800
Unemployment rate	13.0	12.8	12.8	13.7	13.3	12.7	13.2	13.7	13.5
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	5,762	5,925	5,962	5,727	5,834	5,840	5,821	5,865	5,920
Participation rate	58.6	59.4	59.6	58.3	58.7	58.7	58.4	58.7	59.2
Employed	5,039	5,147	5,199	5,032	5,085	5,144	5,092	5,132	5,189
Employment-population ratio[2]	51.3	51.6	52.0	51.2	51.2	51.7	51.1	51.4	51.9
Unemployed	723	778	763	695	749	696	728	733	732
Unemployment rate	12.6	13.1	12.8	12.1	12.8	11.9	12.5	12.5	12.4
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	848	817	818	907	952	810	797	871	881
Participation rate	39.4	38.2	38.2	42.2	44.6	38.0	37.3	40.7	41.1
Employed	499	479	525	547	569	497	482	537	574
Employment-population ratio[2]	23.2	22.4	24.5	25.4	26.7	23.3	22.6	25.1	26.8
Unemployed	349	339	293	360	383	313	315	334	307
Unemployment rate	41.1	41.4	35.8	39.7	40.2	38.6	39.5	38.3	34.8
Men	41.8	41.5	38.8	41.0	38.5	41.6	37.4	38.9	38.1
Women	40.4	41.4	32.8	38.2	41.9	35.1	41.8	37.8	31.6
HISPANIC ORIGIN									
Civilian noninstitutional population	12,040	12,432	12,469	12,040	12,326	12,362	12,397	12,432	12,469
Civilian labor force	7,883	8,210	8,241	7,854	8,110	8,123	8,102	8,170	8,210
Participation rate	65.5	66.0	66.1	65.2	65.8	65.7	65.4	65.7	65.8
Employed	7,039	7,351	7,410	6,982	7,251	7,274	7,213	7,264	7,351
Employment-population ratio[2]	58.5	59.1	59.4	58.0	58.8	58.8	58.2	58.4	59.0
Unemployed	844	859	831	872	858	849	889	906	858
Unemployment rate	10.7	10.5	10.1	11.1	10.6	10.5	11.0	11.1	10.5

[1] The population figures are not adjusted for seasonal variation; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.

[2] Civilian employment as a percent of the civilian noninstitutional population.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

# # #

Week of November 17, 1986

LABOR SECRETARY HAILS LAW STRENGTHENING CIVILIAN JOB RIGHTS
OF NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE MEMBERS

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock has called President Reagan's signing of a new law protecting National Guard and Reserve member from hiring discrimination "an important step in strengthening both worker rights and our national defense."

The Omnibus Veterans' Benefits Improvement and Health Care Authoriz Act of 1986, signed by President Reagan on October 28, extends protectio already granted by law to employed National Guard and reserve members co unlawful discharge or discrimination on the job, to include hiring.

"By assuring that workers are also protected against hiring discrim based on their status as part-time service members, the new law enhances efforts to widen job opportunities for men and women who serve in our nat Armed Forces," Secretary Brock said.

Brock noted that America is "more dependent than ever" upon the Nati Guard and reserves for its national defense readiness. The new law will h strenghthen efforts to recruit and retain National Guard and reserve pers who periodically must participate in training away from their civilian jc maintain and increase their readiness, he said.

The Veterans' Reemployment Rights Act requires that reservists and National Guard members be granted leaves of absence by their employers to participate in military drills or active duty for training. Protections against unlawful discharge of or discrimination against employed Guard an Reserve members have been in effort since 1968.

All of the protections are administered by the U.S. Department of Lal Veterans' Employment and Training Service.

# # #

Week of November 17, 1986

SHIRLEY DENNIS HEADS WOMEN'S BUREAU,
PLEDGES STRONG ADVOCACY ROLE

WASHINGTON -- Shriley M. Dennis, a former Pennsylvania state government official and a strony advocate of women's issues, has been sworn in as director of the U.S. Department of Labor's Women's Bureau.

She becomes the 10th director of the 66-year-old bureau which was created in 1920 by an act of Congress to promote employment opportunties for women.

Dennis said that under her direction the Women's Bureau will continue advocating employer-sponsored child-care programs, flexible work schedules and benefit packages, and other work-family needs. Education and outreach efforts will be emphasized, she noted. Other programs of the bureau will also continue, including helping employers and employees deal with the impact of high technoloby, providing direction for teenaged women, encouraging corporate advancement for women and targeting employment and career opportunties for all women.

Dennis has been active in numerous civic and black-oriented groups in Pennsylvania and in Philadelphia. In 1985, she served as a member of that city's delegation attending the U.N. Decade for Women Conference held in Nairobi, Kenya.

Dennis, who has a deyree in business administration from Temple University.

# # #

Week of November 17, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The Labor Department's Wage and Hour Division assessed $1,021,603 in child labor civil money penalties against 758 employers who were found to be illegally employing 6,330 minors, according to the Labor Department's Annual Report for Fiscal year 1985.

# # #

The Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation recovered more than $8 million during fiscal year 1985 as a result of debt collection activities from responsible mine operators, insurance carriers, beneficiaries, and medical providers, according to the Labor Department's Annual Report.

# # #

The Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation reported that during the fiscal year, approximately $591 million was paid in benefits to coal miners, eligible survivors, and medical providers, according to the Labor Department's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1985. Of this amount, about $492 million was paid to miners and their survivors as monthly benefit payments.

# # #

11/24/86

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A NEWS SUMMARY
FOR HISPANICS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information,
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

Week of November 24, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

BOSTON HISPANIC EMPLOYMENT
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PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--OCTOBER 1986

REPORT ON QUALITY CHANGES
FOR 1987 MODEL PASSENGER CARS

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Week of November 24, 1986

BOSTON HISPANIC EMPLOYMENT
PROGRAM 'REACHES OUT'

BOSTON -- One of the most significant difficulties for Hispanics seeking federal employment is the application process, says Jose J. Melendez, a career civil servant who wears two hats.

Melendez, a manpower development specialist with the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment, also is the Hispanic Employment Program (HEP) manager for the department's Boston region, which covers the states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

"For someone looking in from the outside, it can be very confusing," he notes. "The forms and the procedures can seem so complex that an individual may be discouraged right from the start in applying for a job."

Several months ago, Melendez and his peers on the Boston Council of HEP managers formed an employment committee to explore ways of recruiting Hispanics for federal employment.

"Early on we agreed on the need for a united plan which involved as many federal agencies as possible." Melendez said. "The result was a proposed series of community-based workshops outlining the application process to Hispanic jobseekers."

Melendez and the committee held its first workshop May 6, at the Hubert H. Humphrey Occupational Resource Center, an adult job-training facility.

Fifteen representatives from 11 federal agencies participated, including the Labor Department, Department of Transportation, Postal Service, General Accounting Office, National Park Service, Food and Nutrition Service, Coast Guard and various branches of the Defense Department.

In attendance were 30 adult center trainees, four instructors and 15 other participants. All displayed enthusiastic interest.

"Not only were the trainees pleased, the instructors at the Humphrey center felt they gained from the presentation," says Melendez. "They indicated that they will utilize the information in the future to help guide others toward federal employment."

Participants were provided a list of agencies and Hispanic program managers for contact points. "By having personally spoken with us, they should be more confident about phoning for assistance." says Melendez.

-more-

Response has been encouraging, Melendez adds. Agencies have recieved applications; there have been some hires and further workshops are planned.

Melendez has relinquished chairmanship of the employment committee in order to work on another project -- a conference on Hispanic employment issues.

Still in the planniny staye, the conference reportedly would be the first of its type for the Boston area, combining participation of federal, state and local agencies and private employers.

"Initial response is positive," states Melendez. "The opportunity and the interest are there.

"It's a worth a try."

# # #

Week of November 24, 1986

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--OCTOBER 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Producer Price Index for Finished Goods moved up 0.3 percent seasonally adjusted from September to October, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. This was about the same as the increase registered in both August and September. Prices received by producers of intermediate goods fell 0.3 percent in October, in the wake of a 0.5 percent advance a month earlier. The crude materials index climbed 1.6 percent, the largest monthly rise since May.

Among finished goods, consumer food prices turned up after edging slightly lower in September. After declining in July and August and advancing in September, the index for finished energy goods turned down.

The index for finished goods other than foods and energy recorded the largest increase in a year, largely reflecting higher prices for new-model passenger cars and trucks.

Before seasonal adjustment, the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods moved up 1.0 percent to 290.5 (1967=100).

From October 1985 to October 1986, the Finished Goods Price Index decreased 1.4 percent. During the same 12-month period, consumer food prices rose 5.5 percent, the index for energy goods fell 36.5 percent, consumer goods other than foods and energy advanced 2.9 percent, and capital equipment prices moved up 2.2 percent. The intermediate goods index declined 4.0 percent in the 12 months ended in October 1986, and crude material prices dropped 7.1 percent.

# # #

Week of November 24, 1986

REPORT ON QUALITY CHANGES
FOR 1987 MODEL PASSENGER CARS

WASHINGTON -- The value of quality changes for the sample of 1987 model domestic passenger cars included in the Producer Price Index averaged $37.89, according to estimates of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. This change represents about 5.5 percent of the average $694.29 yearly increase in producers' prices.

The retail equivalent value of these quality changes averaged $47.13, representing about 6.1 percent of the average annual increase in manufacturers' suggested list prices of $776.38.

Estimates of the value of quality change are based on a review by BLS of data supplied by automobile producers for 20 similarly-equipped 1986 and 1987 model domestic cars priced in the Producer Price Index. One of the vehicles underwent significant content change and is not included in the price and quality change estimates. Most estimates of quality changes in this release are derived from data used in the Producer Price Index for October.

The $47.13 estimated retail level of quality change breaks down as follows:

- $1.92 for changes adopted in accordance with the Motor Vehicle Theft Law Enforcement Act of 1984, identification numbers stamped on certain parts of cars with a high incidence of theft;

- $45.21 for other quality changes, such as variations in the levels of standard or optional equipment, changes in vehicle power trains, and increases in corrosion resistance.

There is no quality allowance in these figures for Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 208, the passive restraint requirement, because vehicle manufacturers have not yet made that feature available on those automobiles included in the PPI sample. When the feature becomes available, it will be evaluated according to normal quality adjustment procedures.

# # #

Week of November 24, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs completed 5,217 compliance reviews during fiscal year 1985, the largest number for any fiscal year since the program was consolidated in fiscal 1979, according to the Labor Department's Annual Report for Fiscal year 1985.

# # #

During fiscal year 1985, the Mine Safety and Health Administration made 68,448 coal mine inspections and investigations. Of these, 49,492 were at underground mines and 18,956 were at surface mines and noncoal producing facilities, according to the U.S. Labor Department's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1985.

# # #

The Mine Safety and Health Administration investigated 205 compliants of safety- or health-related discrimination that coal mine personnel filed with the agency during the 1985 fiscal year, according to the Labor Department's Fiscal Year 1985 Annual Report. During this same period, the agency also opened 52 investigations into possible knowing or willful violations of coal mine safety or health regulations.

# # #

12/1/86

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A NEWS SUMMARY
FOR HISPANICS

from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information,
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

Week of December 1, 1986

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Week of December 1, 1986

SECRETARY BROCK CITES NEED TO INCREASE
HISPANIC REPRESENTATION IN LABOR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock has cited the need to increase representation of Hispanics in the Department's work force as one of the areas of special attention in implementing the human resources management of the Cabinet-level agency.

In a memorandum to his executive staff on the Labor Department's work and performance plans for the 1987 fiscal year, Brock also said that hiring and training should "emphasize increased representation of women and minorities in management positions."

He stressed the need to increase training and career development of staff to meet changing technology and reduce skills imbalances, and the need to give greater emphasis to the hiring and retention of quality workers at entry level positions.

Brock also called for career development of staff to meet future vacancies as experienced supervisors and managers retire or leave the department.

Gloria Socorro-Klein, president of the Hispanic American Cultural Effort (HACE), an employee group in the Labor Department, said the steps outlined by Secretary Brock give Hispanics "a sense of special optimism."

She added that the department's "heightened awareness of Hispanic underrepresentation," and the actions proposed by Secretary Brock for accelerated affirmative action on behalf of Hispanics, "will contribute significantly" to improving representation of Hispanics in the department's work force.

"HACE applauds Secretary Brock and his commitment to equal employment opportunity, and we stand ready to serve as an internal resource to the department in this effort," she added.

# # #

Week of December 1, 1986

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--OCTOBER 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rose 0.1 percent before seasonal adjustment in October to a level of 330.5 (1967=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. For the 12-month period ended in October, the CPI-U has increased 1.5 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical workers (CPI-W) was virtually unchanged in October, prior to seasonal adjustment. The October 1986 CPI-W level of 325.0 (1967=100) was 1.2 percent higher than the index in October 1985.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)--Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U rose 0.2 percent in October, following an increase of 0.3 percent in September. The energy index, which had turned upward in September, declined 2.2 percent in October, reflecting decreases in the prices for electricity, motor fuel, and fuel oil. Food and shelter costs--up 0.3 and 0.4 percent, respectively--increased slightly less than in September. Excluding food, shelter, and energy, the CPI-U advanced 0.4 percent in October, after increasing 0.2 percent in September. Increases in the indexes for new cars, automobile finance charges, and automobile insurance accounted for virtually all of that acceleration.

During the first 10 months of 1986, the CPI-U rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 0.7 percent, held down by energy prices, which declined at an annual rate of 22.7 percent. The CPI-U excluding energy advanced at a 3.8 percent annual rate for the first 10 months of 1986 compared to a 4.0 percent increase in the 12 months ended in December 1985.

The housing component, which rose 0.2 percent in September, was virtually unchanged in October, as declines in the indexes for fuel and other utilities and household furnishings and operations offset an increase in shelter costs. Charges for electricity, reflecting a shift to lower winter rates and some rate restructuring, declined a record 4.4 percent. Fuel oil prices, which recorded their first increase of 1986 in September, turned down in October by 1.4 percent. Although charges for natural gas rose 0.9 percent in October, their prices, as well as those for fuel oil and electricity, were lower in October than at the end of 1985. Shelter costs rose 0.4 percent in October.

The transportation component rose 0.1 percent in October, following an increase of 0.4 percent in September. The turnaround in prices for motor fuels caused the smaller October advance. Gasoline prices--down 2.4 percent in October, following a similar September rise--have declined 30.8 percent in the first 10 months of 1986. As of October, gasoline prices were 38.7 percent below their peak level of March 1981. However, most other private transportation components rose more than in September. The new car index rose 0.8 percent, following a 0.2 percent rise in September. Higher priced 1987 models represented about 43 percent of the new car sample in October. (For a report on quality change for 1987 cars, see news release USDL 86-470, dated November 14, 1986). Automobile financing charges, which dropped a record 6.1 percent in September, rose 3.4 percent, largely due to the elimination of manufacturer financing concessions. Nevertheless, financing charges have declined 11.7 percent during the first 10 months of 1986. Automobile insurance costs continued to rise, advancing 2.2 percent in October and 10.7 percent thus far this year. Used car prices rose slightly for the second consecutive month, following 7 months of declines. The index for public transportation was virtually unchanged in October.

-more-

The food and beverage component increased 0.3 percent in October. Grocery store food prices rose 0.4 percent, the same as in September. Advances in the indexes for beef, fresh fruits and vegetables, and dairy products accounted for virtually all of the October increase. Beef prices rose 1.5 percent, the same as in September. Among other components of the meats, poultry, fish, and eggs category, pork, poultry, and egg prices, each declined in October. The 0.2 percent drop in pork prices follows a 16.6 percent increase during the preceding 4 months. Poultry and egg prices--down 0.7 and 0.9 percent, respectively--declined for the second consecutive month, following large increases in July and August. Fresh fruit and vegetable prices registered their fourth consecutive advance, increasing 1.6 percent in October, after declining 6.1 percent during the first 6 months of 1986. The index for dairy products rose 0.6 percent in October, largely due to an increase in milk prices. The 0.8 percent rise was the largest in 2 years. The other two components of the food and beverage index--restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages--rose 0.2 and declined 0.1 percent, respectively.

The index for apparel and upkeep--up 0.2 percent in October--registered its fourth consecutive increase after declining in 5 of the first 6 months of the year. Clothing prices rose 0.2 percent, and charges for apparel services increased 0.4 percent in October.

The medical care component increased 0.6 percent in October to a level 7.7 percent above a year ago . In October, the index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--rose 0.3 percent. The index for medical care services increased 0.6 percent, with the costs of physicians' services and hospital rooms up 0.5 and 0.6 percent, respectively.

The index for entertainment rose 0.3 percent in October, the same as in September. The other goods and services component turned upward in October, increasing 0.4 percent.

CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)--Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers rose 0.1 percent in October.

# # #

Week of December 1, 1986

REAL EARNINGS IN OCTOBER 1986

WASHINGTON -- Real average weekly earnings increased 0.1 percent from September to October after seasonal adjustment, according to preliminary data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. This increase stemmed from a 0.6 percent increase in average hourly earnings. This increase was partially offset by a 0.3 percent decrease in average weekly hours and a 0.1 percent increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W).

Data on average weekly earnings are collected from the payroll reports of private nonfarm establishments. Earnings of both full-time and part-time workers holding production or nonsupervisory jobs are included. Real average weekly earnings are calculated by adjusting earnings in current dollars for changes in the CPI-W.

Average weekly earnings increased by 1.6 percent between October of 1985 and 1986 as a result of a 2.2 percent increase in average hourly earnings, which was partially offset by a 0.6 percent decrease in average weekly hours. After adjustment for a 1.2 percent increase in the CPI-W over the same period, real average weekly earnings increased 0.4 percent. Before adjustment for seasonal change and deflation by the CPI-W, average weekly earnings were $306.40 in October 1986, compared with $301.54 a year earlier.

THE HOURLY EARNINGS INDEX

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) in dollars of constant purchasing power increased 0.3 percent between September and October. Compared with a year earlier, the HEI increased by 1.3 percent.
The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in overtime in manufacturing and interindustry employment shifts.

# # #

Week of December 1, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (FLSA) as amended, requires that most employees in the United States be paid a minimum hourly wage, and premium overtime pay after a certain number of hours. The minumum wage is $3.35 an hour, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

# # #

The Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) is enforced by the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division of the department's Employment Standards Administration.

# # #

The Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) establishes minimum wage overtime pay, recordkeeping and child labor standards which affect some 63 million employees in private firms, 7.7 million employees of state and local governments, and 2.3 million federal government employees. The Act is enforced by the U.S. Department of Labor.

# # #

12/8/86

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A NEWS SUMMARY FOR HISPANICS

from the
UNITED STATES
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Week of December 8, 1986

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'JOB FAIR' INFORMATION HELPS
HISPANIC IN HIS JOB SEARCH

BLS BROCHURES PROVIDE
CAREER INFORMATION

LABOR DEPARTMENT'S ELIA KERR HEADS
COUNCIL OF HISPANIC PROGRAM MANAGERS

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Week of December 8, 1986

'JOB FAIR' INFORMATION HELPS
HISPANIC IN HIS JOB SEARCH

WASHINGTON -- As Roberto Reyes recalls, he was preparing for exams at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque when he received a "nice thick letter from my sister."

It contained "loads of material" she had collected at a job fair, says Reyes, now an economist with the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

"I had asked my sister to keep her eyes open for possible job opportunities for me," he explains. "The information was most helpful. It included information about job opportunities with the federal government as well as in the private sector.

"It have me a better perspective of where the jobs were and skills needed. It expanded my job horizons and also helped me make decisions regarding my short- and long-range plans."

In 1986, Reyes became a full-time employee with the BLS Division of Occupational and Administrative Statistics.

One of the division's activities is to computerize data received from state employment security agencies on companies' activities, number of employees, and wages. This information is used in maintaining a "universe" file of business establishments, from which the bureau draws samples for its statistical surveys. The file contains some 5 million entries.

The division also identifies new businesses and classifies each according to their industrial activity, such as those in trade, manufacturing, mining, construction, services, and other.

Each business' industrial activity is updated at least every three years, he explains, noting that this allows for updating the Standard Industrial Classification coding of industrial firms and other survey characteristics.

"Since there is a constant flow of changes in the business community, this provides BLS with the information needed to maintain the integrity of the the system," Reyes says.

According to Reyes, other federal agencies also use the information contained in the Standard Industrial Classification, including the Census Bureau and the Internal Revenue Service.

A native of Grant County, N.M., Reyes received his Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and sociology from the University of New Mexico. He is working on his thesis for an M.A. degree in economics from the University of New Mexico.

# # #

Week of December 8, 1986

BLS BROCHURES PROVIDE
CAREER INFORMATION

WASHINGTON -- "Take a close look at the Bureau of Labor Statistics and you will find challenging work being performed by a dynamic staff equipped with the latest computer, economic and statistical techniques."

With those words, a publication of the U.S. Labor Department goes on to describe the agency as one "whose data influence public policy and whose employees can share in that contribution.

The publication, Careers in the Bureau of Labor Statistics, urges job seekers to consider being a part of the agency and to choose a career that is rewarding and challenging.

The publication contains general employment information as well as sections on pay and promotions, training, work hours, benefits and living in Washington.

For additional information or single, free copies of the publication, write to College Recruitment/Special Programs, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 441 G Street, N.W., Room 2121, Washington, D.C. 20212.

In addition, the BLS has three flyers which give detailed information for persons interested in careers as an economist, a mathematical statistician and a computer specialist. Each career guidance flyer describes duties and qualifications for entry level positions at the GS-5 level to research positions at the GS-12 level.

The flyers also contain pertinent information on "How to apply," listing the various application forms required, where package should be sent and actions leading to "Notice of rating" to job seekers.

Single, free copies of flyers are available from the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Division of Personnel and Organization Management, Washington, D.C. 20212. A return mail address label will expedite mailing.

# # #

Week of December 8, 1986

LABOR DEPARTMENT'S ELIA KERR HEADS
COUNCIL OF HISPANIC PROGRAM MANAGERS

WASHINGTON -- Elia R. Kerr has taken office as chairperson of the Washington (D.C.) Council of Hispanic Employment Program managers.

Kerr is manager of the Labor Department's internal Hispanic program.

The Washington Council of Hispanic Employment Program (HEP) managers includes representatives from the major federal agencies in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. About 200 Hispanic program managers belong to the council.

A primary objective of the council is to serve as a focal point to promote and advance employment of Hispanics in the federal government.

# # #

Week of December 8, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

More than 30,000 Korean conflict and Vietnam era veterans were placed in training positions under the Emergency Veterans' Job Training Act of 1983, according to the Labor Department's annual report for fiscal year 1985. The act is jointly administered by the Labor Department and the Veterans Administration.

# # #

About 202,000 individuals were advised of their reemployment rights at time of separation from active duty by the Office of Veterans' Reemployment Rights, according to the Labor Department's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1985.

# # #

The Labor Department's Office of Veterans' Reemployment Rights helps eligible veterans, reservists and members of the National Guard regain their old civilian jobs. During the 1985 fiscal year, the office responded to about 30,000 inquiries about reemployment rights, according to the Labor Department's annual report for fiscal year 1985.

# # #